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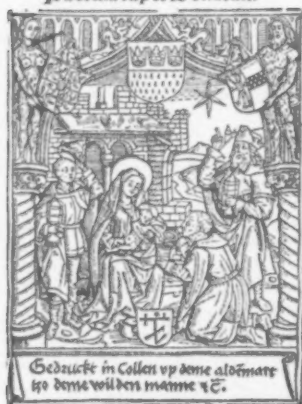
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THE LIBRARY QUARTERLY

A Journal of Investigation and Discussion in the Field of Library Science

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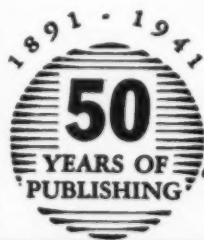
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THE LIBRARY QUARTERLY

Volume XI

JANUARY 1941

Number 1

A STATISTICAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE STUDY OF LIBRARIES IN CONTEMPORARY GERMANY

RALPH T. ESTERQUEST

WHAT happened to German science and German thought under the impact of National Socialism is a story only imperfectly appraised by those of us who try to keep in touch with the march of events in Europe. Readers of such accounts as Erika Mann's general treatment of education under the Nazis in her *School for barbarians* or of Eva Lips's more personal history in *Savage symphony* tend to look upon the German situation with more sympathy than understanding. Somewhat more empirical than these two popular accounts is the recent report¹ of the American Association of Scientific Workers' Boston-Cambridge Branch, which disclosed such carefully verified facts as (1) German universities lost more than half their students during the first five years of National Socialism; (2) university teaching staffs dropped 15.8 per cent net in size in five years under Hitler; (3) about fifteen hundred scientific workers in universities were deprived of their positions for political reasons; (4) the University of Vienna in one year of German occupation lost 48.1 per cent of its teaching staff as contrasted with 6 per cent the preceding year; (5) re-

¹ Preliminary report on the status of scientific research in contemporary Germany (Cambridge: The Association, 1939). Reviewed and abstracted in *Science news letter*, July 15, 1939, p. 36.

search publishing in German journals of chemistry, biochemistry, and physiology has fallen off 50 per cent and more; and (6) the two leading sociological journals are now perforce being published in Paris and New York, and the famous philosophical journal *Logos* has become a propaganda instrument.

The bearing these facts might have on American librarianship is indirect. And yet there are implications by which we who take our library work and our American democracy seriously might establish and perpetuate the kind of principles expressed recently in the "Library's Bill of Rights," adopted by the Council of the American Library Association last year. If European events of the last decade have taught us that it is possible for freedom of thought and action to vanish overnight, an understanding of those events and a rational attitude toward them should aid us in directing our own fate.

In the fall of 1939 I tried to discover just which repercussions in the academic life in Hitler's Germany had a direct bearing on librarianship there. To what extent did National Socialism invade the library? Did German librarians as a group or individually feel the pressure of Nazi regimentation? Did the tendency within the profession lean toward "co-ordination" with the new philosophy, or was it quite definitely toward an attitude of non-co-operation, positive objection, or even rebellion—the last perhaps leading to voluntary or forced exile? Were libraries turned over to the vast political propaganda machine, in which they play today a coglike role of support and active substantiation of the current political dogma, or did they escape to remain fairly immune from political interference?

The whole question of libraries in contemporary Germany is, of course, one of broad scope and considerably more than the present paper attempts to treat. It has been a matter of some surprise to the writer that the library literature in the English language has neglected to discuss the subject at any great length. Except for one or two minor examples, neither general nor specific aspects of the German library scene have been presented to the English reader. It is to be hoped that an exhaustive treatment of the subject will eventually be undertaken and

that a study will be made to compare with the excellent treatise of Edward Yarnall Hartshorne on the German universities.² This carefully documented piece of research might serve as a model for the future library investigator, and the book should be required reading for American librarians who are at all interested in the European library situation.

The present writer has not in the least attempted to present more than a few aspects of this large question. What has been attempted is merely a consideration of certain features of the question that could be treated statistically. An examination has been made of the data available on the turnover of librarians, on the decrease in the number of libraries, on changes in library use, and a few other subjects.

Before an examination of the statistical data is made, however, it might be well to review briefly the German library situation of the past few years for the benefit of the American librarians who have not kept up to date on library affairs beyond the Rhine. This condensed outline is drawn entirely from articles that have appeared during the last five years in German library literature.

STATUS OF GERMAN LIBRARIES IN THE THIRD REICH

From the library literature that has come out of Germany we have learned of the aims of the libraries of the new Germany. The spirit of National Socialism has captured the imagination of at least a number of library writers, who have exhorted their fellow librarians to recognize the "new day," have preached the new gospel of librarianship, and have discussed the new library laws and regulations, the new principles, and the new objectives.

In a few brief strokes, then, let us attempt to reproduce the general library picture in Germany as it has appeared to us in the pages of the *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* and *Die Bücherei*, the periodicals of German librarianship.³

² *The German universities and National Socialism* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1937).

³ For its excellent abstracts the writer is indebted to recent volumes of the H. W. Wilson Company's *Library literature*. He has drawn extensively from them in preparing the summary that follows in the next three or four pages.

The librarians who have been chiefly responsible for the picture we have of the libraries of post-Hitler Germany are about twelve in number. They represent several sections of German librarianship as the following enumeration shows.

Gustav Abb.—Member of the National Commission of Examiners for Library Science. Director of the University of Berlin Library since May 1, 1935. Examiner and Investigator of the Libraries of the Eastern District. Has been in university library work since 1911.

Wolf von Both.—Member of the National Commission of Examiners for Library Science. Library Commissioner (*Bibliothekreferendar*) for the Prussian State Library in Berlin since October 1, 1935. Has been in university library work since 1927.

Heinz Dähnhardt.—Administrator in the German Ministry of Education, presumably in charge of popular libraries (called *Sachbearbeiter* in 1937; *Oberregierungsrat* in 1938). No further biographical information found. Does not appear as author in the German library literature until January, 1936. Does not appear in any library directory or list of librarians.

Joachim Kirchner.—Director of the Library for the New Language and Music (*Bibliothek für neuere Sprachen und Musik*) of Frankfurt-on-Main, a division of the University Library, since November 1, 1928. Prior to 1934, this library was known as the *Freiherrlich Carl von Rothschildsche Bibliothek*. Has been in university library work since 1913.

Rudolf Kummer.—Library Commissioner in the German Ministry of Science, Instruction, and Popular Education since November 1, 1935. Has served in similar capacities in municipal governments since 1922. Has never been on the staff of a library proper.

Johannes Langfeldt.—Director of the City Library of Mülheim-on-the-Ruhr since June 1, 1926. In library work since 1923.

Joachim Petzold.—Director of the Bureau of Library Science of the National Socialist Party in Munich (referred to as *Hauptstellenleiter*). Has not been connected with any library proper and is not to be confused with Julius Petzold, the noted librarian and bibliographer of a generation ago.

Fritz Prinzhorn.—Director of the Library of the Technical High School in Danzig since January 1, 1929. Formerly of the Technical High School of Berlin. Professor of library science in the Danzig Technical High School since April 20, 1937. In library work since 1919.

Franz Schriewer.—Director of the City Library of Frankfurt-on-Oder since January 1, 1934.

Wilhelm Schuster.—Director of the City (Popular) Library in Berlin since May 1, 1934. In library work since 1919.

Karl Taupitz.—Director of the City (Popular) Library and Reading Room of Dresden. Held this office in 1935, but his name does not appear in library directories prior to that date.

Ernst Wermke.—Member of the National Commission of Examiners for Library Science. Director of the Breslau City Library since August 1, 1933. In library work since 1921.⁴

State control of all libraries.—The aspect of the new situation in German libraries that appears most immediately to the foreigner is probably the degree of state control that has been achieved during the last five years. It is to be remembered, however, that many German libraries have long had a form of local or provincial government supervision that directed library practice and policy somewhat more completely than is the case in the United States. That the national government and the National Socialist Party have now taken over complete control of all German libraries is a matter about which there can no longer be any doubt. State control of libraries is, of course, essential in order to insure the performance of the library function that has become common to all libraries in the Third Reich, namely, that of supporting the political ideas of the state.

The fact that both scholarly and popular libraries in Germany have in recent decades thrown their doors open to the public at large is the basic justification for the control of all libraries by the National Socialist state.⁵ State control has been achieved through the establishment of the Reich Council for Library Affairs, created in 1936.⁶ Control of the popular libraries has been accomplished more particularly through the establishment of the provincial bureaus⁷ and the more recent regulatory decrees of October 26, 1937, which define their financial support and mode of administration, establish the central government Bureau for Popular Libraries, as well as the frontier library systems and the metropolitan library system.⁸

⁴ It is interesting to note that most of these "spokesmen" for the present German library world were appointed to their present positions since 1934.

⁵ Fritz Prinzhorn, "Die Aufgaben der Bibliotheken im nationalsozialistischen Deutschland," *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, LI (1934), 465-71.

⁶ Rudolf Kummer, "Das wissenschaftliche Bibliothekswesen im nationalsozialistischen Deutschland," *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, LV (1938), 399-413.

⁷ Franz Schriewer, "Warum staatliche Stellen für das Volksbüchereiwesen?" *Bücherei*, III (1936), 6-13.

⁸ Heinz Dähnhardt, "Richtlinien für das Volksbüchereiwesen," *Bücherei*, V (1938), 1-7, 130-36. The Regulations themselves appear on pp. 39-44.

The pre-Hitler condition of the popular libraries in the cities is described by the present library writers as having been chaotic—by which is meant, probably, that they lacked a universal purpose or aim. That they should no longer determine their own individual objectives is the current emphatic preachment; and the present full degree of central control is hailed as having integrated the popular libraries into what is termed a “community” library system, the “community” being the whole area of the German Reich.⁹ The public library is regarded as no longer functioning as a means of entertainment for the individual but as a public institution with the political responsibility of providing the masses with spiritual, intellectual, and practical standards of action and thought.¹⁰ Such a “public institution” cannot exist with its individual members operating as un-co-ordinated individuals; its aim cannot be accomplished without an organized system of state direction. Individual libraries have no need to fear that their individual problems are not to be treated in the light of the individual circumstances involved, because, since the functions of all popular libraries are aimed toward a common goal, the problems of all libraries, rural and urban, are fundamentally identical.¹¹

The role of the scholarly libraries.—As for the scholarly libraries, their role is to work in co-operation with the community libraries under the supervision of the state. Strong state control promises to eliminate the “confusion” that is reported to have existed in this respect.¹² Whereas the popular library’s function is that of an educational medium, the scholarly library’s is to serve as a treasure house for the intellectual wealth of the Reich and of German *Kultur*; they are the tools of the scientific research which is to serve the nationalistic idea.¹³ The librarian of the scholarly library must realize that the new Germany defines research according to new terms: the unhealthy intellectualism of the past generation has been discredited, and research specialization today is in terms of the greater Ger-

⁹ Karl Taupitz, “Über den Begriff der Volksbücherei,” *Bücherei*, VI (1939), 1-8.

¹⁰ Schriewer, *op. cit.*

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² Taupitz, *op. cit.*

¹³ Prinzhorn, *op. cit.*

many.¹⁴ In the long run, moreover, the scholarly libraries in the cities have an aim that is identical with that of the urban popular libraries, namely, the support of the National Socialist state.¹⁵ Municipal libraries of all sorts must co-operate for the accomplishment of this ultimate end.¹⁶

Although most of the writers in the German library literature have discussed the new functions of the library in very general, albeit very positive, terms, a few have gone into particulars.¹⁷ However, since it is not our purpose to go into details here, these articles need not be reviewed. As to the actual functioning of the library-District Library Bureau relations, at least one writer seems enthusiastic. The National Socialist Party District Library Bureau in a district on the eastern border of Bavaria offers the state its "guidance" in all political questions touching the libraries in that area. The relation is reported as an outstanding example of co-operation of the state with the National Socialist Party. The party-leader-director of this particular bureau is also director of the Frontier Library Bureau of the Eastern Marches of Bavaria.¹⁸

German libraries and the new scholarship.—In March, 1938, the Dutch periodical *Bibliotheekleven* reported the creation by the German government of a Division of Scholarly Libraries, intended to foster wholesome relations between scholarship and politics.¹⁹ The German library literature has pointed out for some time the role of the research libraries in the new scholarship. In August, 1933, at the first post-Hitler session of the German Library Association Joachim Kirchner presented a hope that the libraries would get into the forefront of the scholarship based on the new nationalist trend. German scholarship

¹⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁵ Wilhelm Schuster, "Neue Aufgaben der wissenschaftlichen Bibliotheken, 1937/38," *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, LIII (1936), 542-52.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁷ E.g., Heinz Dähnhardt, "Weg und Ziel deutscher Volksbüchereiarbeit," *Bücherei*, IV (1937), 1-5.

¹⁸ "Aus der bayerischen Ostmark," *Bücherei*, IV (1937), 223-24.

¹⁹ "Duitaland," *Bibliotheekleven*, XXIII (1938), 63-64.

should not let itself become distorted by alien elements but hold true to the highest ideals of German culture, and the libraries should line themselves up with this new attitude.²⁰ Five years later the 1938 session of the Association heard that already one common purpose was animating both the popular and the scholarly libraries; the chief function of the latter was still the collection, preservation, and advancement of German scientific literature—with the emphasis on the German angle. It was further stated that, when necessary, research libraries were also to collect literature unfriendly to the state and to make it available to authorized persons.²¹ The same writer attempted to show that even before the seizure of power in 1933 libraries were undertaking nationalistic enterprises such as inquiries into the racial origins of all German intellectuals.²²

A significant amount of space in the literature is devoted to the theme that the German library organization is the best in the world. This is, of course, an understandable aspect of the general tendency to extol German *Kultur*. Here too the library finds an important role. The principal duty of the libraries, said Fritz Prinzhorn at the annual meeting of the librarians in 1934, is to make the people cognizant of their intellectual heritage through exhibits and through the collection of German literature produced in foreign countries. German librarians are exhorted to take their place in the vanguard of fighters for the preservation of the national culture.²³ Libraries on the eastern frontier are the outposts, moreover, for the defense and the justification of German ideals.²⁴ The importance of the eastern "outposts" is frequently emphasized. The political and social function of libraries in the areas where German and Slavic elements are mingled is to accomplish a victory of German culture

²⁰ "Schrifttum und wissenschaftliche Bibliotheken im nationalsozialistischen Deutschland," *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, L (1933), 514-25. The book-selection implications of this new policy will be discussed further on.

²¹ Kummer, *op. cit.* In this connection see Leon Carnovsky, "Libraries in Nazi Germany," *Library journal*, LIX (1934), 893-94. In 1934 Mr. Carnovsky found the works of German authors that were then in disrepute quite absent from the catalogs of several of the larger German research libraries.

²² *Ibid.*

²³ *Op. cit.*

²⁴ *Ibid.*

against that of eastern Europe by making the history and lore of the region alive to the population.²⁵

The library activities of the party.—The question of the role of the National Socialist Party itself in library activities is, of course, open to discussion, but it seems clear from the literature that few libraries are without its influence if not in its complete control. Its policy in regard to the popular library was discussed in 1938 by Joachim Petzold, who said that the Party itself did not intend to enter into rivalry with the public library system by establishing its own Party libraries. Instead it intended to "co-operate" with the popular libraries and to imbue them with the National Socialist spirit. An important intention of the Party is to combat the influence of sectarian and other non-state-supported libraries that exhibit a reluctance to confine themselves to literature approved by the Party.²⁶

In the city of Mülheim on the Ruhr, the City Youth Guidance Bureau Library, established in 1928, has become a Hitler Youth reading-room.²⁷ In every school in the same city a delegate of the National Socialist Teachers Association is held responsible for the irreproachable character of the administration and collection of the school library.²⁸ These examples are typical of party control of the smaller libraries of the German system.

Control of book selection.—As would be expected, book selection is one of the first matters to receive attention in any policy of control. Book lists are published by the Party and are supplied to the popular, school, and smaller libraries of all sorts.²⁹ If the popular library is to provide the masses with standards of action and thought, a book collection is demanded that shows a carefully planned program of selection.³⁰

²⁵ Ernst Wermke, "Die deutschen Bibliotheken im Osten," *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* (1934), 471-86.

²⁶ Joachim Petzold, "Die Aufgaben des nationalsozialistischen Büchereiwesens," *Bücherei*, V (1938), 212-16.

²⁷ Johannes Langfeldt, "Die Stadtbücherei Mülheim an der Ruhr," *Bücherei*, V (1938), 168-71.

²⁸ *Ibid.*

²⁹ Petzold, *op. cit.*

³⁰ Schriewer, *op. cit.*

Turning to the scholarly libraries, we find the question of book selection based on the same theme. The book collection of the university libraries especially must fulfil the aims of the new scholarship. The duty of the librarian to the research workers and teachers in institutions of higher learning is once again that of reading books³¹ and making a strict selection of only the best.³² Some of the earliest fundamental rules formulated for Nazi book selection were: literature by Jewish authors or political material of a communistic or socialistic nature must be excluded; all books relating to German history, genealogy, religion, and ideals must be included; and, in order to support German industry, the purchase of foreign books must be stopped as far as it is at all possible.³³

The matter of the political views of the library's administration is as important as that of its book selection. For this reason we find that the training of candidates for scholarly library work is being thoroughly revised. For one thing, applicants are now required to be members of the National Socialist Party or one of its subdivisions.³⁴ Wilhelm Schuster, writing in 1938 on the Berlin University Library School, listed what he felt to be the seven cardinal principles of training for library work. One of the seven asserted that the faith of the young librarians of today must be a serene and confident National Socialism.³⁵

Changes in library support and library use.—A considerable change has taken place in the matter of library support. During the period 1935-38, the chief source of funds for the scholarly libraries has shifted very decidedly from users' fees to appropriations from the central government.³⁶ Users' fees, in the case of the university libraries in Prussia, dropped from 660,000 marks in 1933 to 29,000 marks in 1937, while regular state grants rose from 171,000 marks to 748,000 marks in the same period. In

³¹ It was felt in 1933 that the librarian would soon have time for reading all the books selected for his library, because the book-production rate would be greatly reduced through the elimination of all "pedantic" and "useless" research.

³² Kirchner, *op. cit.*

³³ *Ibid.*

³⁴ Kummer, *op. cit.*

³⁵ "Die berliner Bibliotheksschule," *Bücherei*, V (1938), 511-22.

³⁶ Wolf von Both, "Die grossen deutschen Bibliotheken, 1935-1938," *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, LVI (1939), 188-98.

some libraries the additional grants have balanced the loss of users' fees; in others they have not. The proportion of book acquisitions received by gift has increased; one-quarter of the new books added to university libraries recently have been obtained by purchase.³⁷ Hamburg and Greifswald university libraries in 1936-37 accounted for only 16 per cent of their new books by purchase.³⁸ This, of course, has resulted in the acquisition of smaller, less significant works.³⁹

There has been a steady decrease in library use, especially in the scholarly libraries. The users of eighteen university libraries in 1932 totaled 37,000; in 1935 they amounted to 21,000; and in 1937 to 16,000.⁴⁰ This is largely due to the wholesale decrease in the university student body, which the Germans set at 30 per cent and foreign observers at 50 per cent. For this reason the libraries have found it easier to satisfy calls for books.⁴¹ In spite of the decrease in the number of users, the university and research libraries report a pronounced increase in the number of volumes requested, according to Library Commissioner Rudolf Kummer.⁴² The statistics on this point, however, do not support Mr. Kummer, as will later be shown.

A STATISTICAL CONSIDERATION OF CHANGES IN GERMAN LIBRARIES

Let us turn now to an examination of the available data on the turnover of librarians, changes in the status of libraries, progress and retrogression in library use, the growth of libraries, and any other aspects that might contribute facts to a judgment of the total library situation. The facts assembled in the pages that follow are confined entirely to the scholarly libraries; the popular libraries have been omitted from consideration, be-

³⁷ *Ibid.*

³⁸ *Ibid.*, LIV (1937), 34-44.

³⁹ *Ibid.*

⁴⁰ *Ibid.*, LVI (1939), 188-98.

⁴¹ *Ibid.*, LIV (1937), 34-44. For further data and for details concerning the annual progress of university and research libraries in Germany see the annual statement that has appeared in recent issues of the *Publication of the International federation of library associations*, V (1933), 115-17; VI (1934), 64-67; VII (1935), 44-46; IX (1937), 79-82; and X (1938), 95-99.

⁴² *Op. cit.*

cause their reorganization has been admittedly so complete under the new administration that a consecutive history would be almost impossible to trace in detail. The scholarly libraries, on the other hand, do not show on the surface the same complete reorganization.

Turnover of head-librarians.—One of the factors involved in the systematic progress and efficient functioning of a library system is the degree to which the professional staff remains stable. It is not known, nor do opinions agree, as to how much or how rapid the turnover in higher staff positions should be to make for the most effective all-around library service. About the only rule that has been formulated is that both a very high rate and a very low rate of turnover is undesirable; the happy state between these extremes would probably lie—in the case of the head-librarianship—somewhere between one change every five or six years and one every twenty or thirty. Anything less than the five- or six-year minimum for a head-librarian would tend to make for instability in the matter of established policies—progress would tend to be spasmodic. The arguments against extremely infrequent change involve the question of a static policy and an inflexibility of ideas.

With these ideas in mind, let us examine the statistical record of head-librarian turnover in Germany. Different American librarians will interpret the data differently, but the figures themselves are illuminating, and it is the purpose of the present investigation only to introduce whatever data seem relevant without resting heavily upon their interpretation.

Methodology.—The method used in compiling the data of the following tables involved the systematic checking of several issues of the *Jahrbuch der deutschen Bibliotheken*, the directory and statistical yearbook of the Verein deutscher Bibliothekare. Part I (*Verzeichnis der Bibliotheken*) of the *Jahrbuch* presents an alphabetical list of the scientific, or "learned," libraries of greater Germany.⁴³ Between the years 1922 and 1938 the sev-

⁴³ Although quite general in their collections and readers, the *wissenschaftliche bibliotheken* are quite distinct in their administration and in the German librarian's thinking from the popular libraries or *Volksbüchereien*. Thus, there are two library associations, and the *Jahrbuch der deutschen Bibliotheken* lists only the first type, or scholarly libraries,

eral issues listed from about 350 libraries in 1922 to 540 libraries in 1933. The list was reduced subsequently until the 1938 issue included only 475 libraries. Along with the libraries of Germany proper the *Jahrbuch* has regularly listed also those German libraries in Austria, the Tyrol, the Baltic cities outside Germany, Rome, Athens, etc. Excluding all those libraries outside of the boundaries of pre-1936 Germany, a count was made of changes of the head-librarian for every individual library between successive annual volumes. Thus, in comparing the 1925 volume with that for 1926, it was found that among the 375 libraries whose entries provided the name of the librarian 14 changed their head-librarians, and 1 library during the year lost its librarian without appointing a successor, that is, the librarianship appeared in the 1926 volume as vacant (see Table 1).

This checking and tabulating was continued for the entire period, 1922-38. A volume was examined for every year except for certain periods when the *Jahrbuch* was not issued.⁴⁴ These gaps did not handicap the investigation, however, for the reason that the data for the larger period could be computed, and a subsequent interpolation would not impair the validity of the results.

The data compiled from the process just described are tabulated in Table 1.

The first conclusion to be drawn from these data is that, whereas the average annual turnover of head-librarians in Germany before National Socialism was about one in twenty, the rate increased afterward to nearly one in five. This increase is expressed graphically in Figure 1.

Conclusions regarding turnover.—Not counting those librarians who lost their positions because a library ceased to operate, the data show that, while during the period March, 1932, to March, 1933, only 19 librarians left office, during the following year 74 left office. Since the total number of libraries involved

which group includes the four hundred chief libraries of the nation (see L. R. McCollvin [ed.], *A survey of libraries* [London: Library Association, 1938], pp. 225-27, for a clear statement of this distinction).

⁴⁴ These years are 1923, 1924, 1930, 1931, 1932, and 1935.

TABLE 1*
NUMBER AND RATE OF CHANGES IN THE HEAD-LIBRARIANSHIP OF GERMAN LIBRARIES FROM 1922 TO 1938

(i) Year	(a) No. of Libraries Listed	(s) No. of Head- Librarians Listed	Period Repre- sented	(4) No. of Head- Librarians Changed	(5) No. of Head- Librarians Vacant	(6) Vacancies of Last Issue Listed as Filled	(7) Vacancies of More than One Year	(8) Librarians Dropped Due to Change of Status	(9) Total No. of Librarians Changed	(10) Total No. Reduced to an Annual Average	(11) Rate of Turnover (Librarians per 100 Libraries)
April, 1922.....	323	315	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
May, 1925.....	357	337	1922-25	56	9	1	.....	.....	65	21.7	6.4
April, 1926.....	402	376	1925-26	14	1	3	.....	.....	15	15.0	4.0
March, 1927.....	412	378	1926-27	14	3	2	.....	.....	17	17.0	4.5
April, 1928.....	429	386	1927-28	21	3	2	.....	.....	24	24.0	6.2
April, 1929.....	434	400	1928-29	17	1	4	.....	.....	18	18.0	4.5
March, 1933.....	454	427	1929-33	70	6	2	.....	.....	76	19.0	4.4
April, 1934.....	434	404	1933-34	63	11	5	.....	.....	74	74.0	18.3
April, 1936.....	432	402	1934-36	76	7	8	3	.....	86	43.0	10.7
October, 1937....	386	329	1936-37	22	9	4	3	31	65	65.0	19.8
November, 1938..	386	323	1937-38	27	9	2	6	4	46	46.0	14.2

Col. 1. The year and month represent the date of issue of the *Jahrbuch*.

Col. 2. The actual number of libraries listed, exclusive of German libraries outside the Germany of 1935.

Col. 8. Accounts for libraries which were reduced in status to such an extent that the office of librarian becomes nonexistent.

Col. 9. For these totals the values of Col. 6 are not included.

Col. 10. This corrects for the variations in the periods covered.

Col. 11. This corrects for the variations in the total number of libraries involved.

* Based on data from the *Jahrbuch der deutschen Bibliotheken*.

decreased during that period from 454 to 434, these values are more accurately described in terms of librarians per hundred libraries. For the 1932-33 period these figures rose from 4.4 librarians per hundred to 18.3 per hundred. The assumption is that the number of librarians who left office, that is, in excess

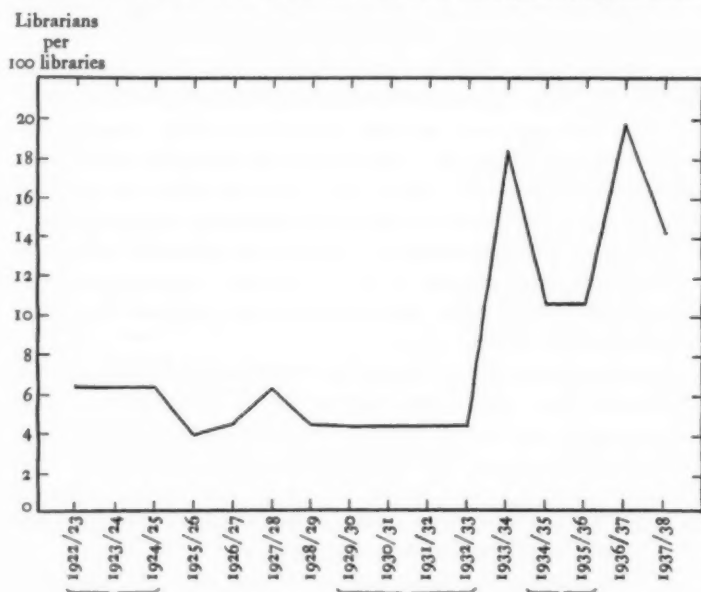


FIG. 1.—Rate of annual turnover of German head-librarians for the period 1922-38. The three periods designated above by horizontal brackets are represented in the figure as having a uniform rate of annual turnover within each period. Actually, this is not the case; but, because data were not available for the separate years, the average rate per year is used in the graph. Thus, the uniformity shown above is statistical rather than actual.

of the number who ordinarily left office each year in the past, represent cases that are connected somehow with the events of 1933.

One would suspect, furthermore, that wholesale removals and departures from office during the 1933-34 period would result in a situation in which enough librarianships would be "co-ordi-

nated" so that a large turnover would not take place during the following year. Yet the period 1934-36 found 86 more librarians leaving office, or about 43 a year—10.7 librarians per year per hundred libraries. And 1936-37 brought another series of changes, when 65 librarians left office in the course of one year—19.8 librarians per hundred libraries. In 1937-38, 46 librarians left—14.2 librarians per hundred libraries.

Computed on a five-year basis, this means that during the five years before National Socialism, a total of 94 librarians—about 22 for every hundred libraries—left office. During the five years after 1933, 271 librarians—or about 74 for every hundred libraries—left office. The fact that three-quarters of the scholarly libraries lost their head-librarians during the first five years of the Nazi regime is a strong commentary either on the instability of the present library system or perhaps on the widespread unwillingness among the older librarians to participate in the new library plans.

Protracted vacancies.—Of special interest also is the number of librarianships that remained vacant over a period in excess of a year. Of course, without knowing the reasons underlying each particular case, it is hazardous to speculate about this situation. Yet it seems significant that, whereas an extended vacancy in the head-librarianship was unknown among the nearly four hundred scholarly libraries prior to 1935, such vacancies did occur after that date, six libraries in 1938 reporting that a librarian had not yet been appointed after a period in excess of one year. That is to say, the vacancies were reported in two or more consecutive issues of the *Jahrbuch*.

Nor are these cases those of small or unimportant institutions. Five of the six libraries reporting extended vacancies are ranking German libraries of 200,000 or more volumes. One of them is the largest university library in Germany, that of the University of Leipzig. Although librarian Otto Glauning left office on August 31, 1937, the vacancy was not yet filled as late as November, 1938. If Dr. Glauning's motive in leaving was retirement, which might be presumed since he became sixty years old that year, the impending vacancy was known for a

time prior to the actual retirement. In this case it becomes apparent that the filling of at least this important library post has not been an easy matter in Nazi Germany.

A parallel case is that of Martin Bollert, who left the librarianship of the large and important Saxony Landesbibliothek, or provincial library, in August, 1937. As late as November, 1938, this library of 780,261 volumes and 2,261 incunabula—the largest in the city of Dresden and one of the largest in all Germany—continued to operate with the librarianship vacant.

Reduction of status.—Even more significant perhaps than the new vogue of prolonged vacancies is the recent practice of reducing the status of important libraries to a state of relative unimportance, accompanying this reorganization with a reduction of staff, either to a point where the administration of the library is turned over to another municipal or local department, museum, or institution or to a point where the directorship is placed in the hands of a clerical assistant, while the professional staff is dismissed. This has been the fate of at least 35 libraries of the scholarly type since 1937.

The procedure under which such a reduction of status takes place is perhaps best seen in the cases of the Landesbücherei at Neustrelitz and the Deutsche Zentralbücherei für Blinde in Leipzig. In the case of the Neustrelitz library the staff appeared in the 1936 *Jahrbuch* as consisting of at least three professional librarians, including Dr. Henrich Reifferscheid as *Leiter* and Walter Karbe as *Bibliothekar*. In place of a staff this same library reported in the 1937 volume merely the phrase *Verwaltung nebenamtlich*, which might be translated as "Semiofficial administration." The names of the two librarians have disappeared. In no sense can this be interpreted as merely an abbreviated entry due to a new policy of the library or the editing of the *Jahrbuch*. Paralleling in details the case of this library are at least twenty other German libraries, all the cases falling within the period 1936 to 1938.

The type of reduction of status represented by the Library for the Blind in Leipzig is of a different sort. Here the 1936 *Jahrbuch* lists eight library positions with the number of workers

in each, together with Marie Lomnitz-Klamroth as director. The 1937 issue omits the office of director and states that there are nineteen employees.

Of course, one can only speculate concerning what might have happened in this case, the only thing being certain is that the director's office has vanished. Furthermore, it is at least a valid assumption that a wholesale rearrangement of the administration took place, and the case appears significant as soon as fourteen parallel cases are found to have taken place during the same year. In many cases, of course, the causal factor in these changes in administration can be traced to a substantial curtailment of funds.

THE CLOSING OF LIBRARIES

Let us turn now from the librarians to the libraries themselves. In checking the entries in the *Jahrbuch der deutschen Bibliotheken*, the closing or discontinuing of a library was not counted as a librarian dismissal, although, at least from the point of view of the librarian involved, the death of a library necessarily means a librarian is removed from office just as certainly as when the librarian is replaced by another and the library continues to exist. The extent to which libraries ceased to operate in Germany, however, was considered to be another aspect of the whole library picture, and a statistical analysis was made of this question separately.

Methodology.—From successive issues of the *Jahrbuch* a tabulation was made of the number of libraries which appeared for the first time in a particular issue. Another tabulation was made of the number of libraries that either ceased to appear at all or were described as having closed their doors.

In the case of libraries whose names appear for the first time in the *Jahrbuch* the appearance need not be interpreted as indicating the birth of a new library but might frequently mean merely that the *Jahrbuch* had extended its coverage to include for the first time an already existing library. This fact would probably account for most of the "new" libraries tabulated in Table 2.

On the other hand, in tabulating library "deaths" the fact that a new issue of the *Jahrbuch* ceased to list a library seems to be a valid indication that it actually "went out of business," at least as a separate and distinct institution, since it is hardly reasonable to suppose that the *Jahrbuch*, growing more com-

TABLE 2*
INCREASES AND DECREASES IN THE NUMBER OF LIBRARIES
IN GERMANY BETWEEN 1922 AND 1938

(1) Year	(2) Number of Libraries Listed in <i>Jahrbuch</i>	Period	(3) Number of New Libraries Added	(4) Number of Libraries Which Ceased to Operate	(5) Average Number Closing per Year
April, 1922.....	323	.....	.....	.....	.....
May, 1925.....	357	1922-25	32	6	2
April, 1926.....	402	1925-26	46	3	3
March, 1927.....	412	1926-27	11	1	1
April, 1928.....	429	1927-28	24	7	7
April, 1929.....	434	1928-29	11	6	6
March, 1933.....	454	1929-33	32	9	2
April, 1934.....	434	1933-34	4	9	9
April, 1936.....	432	1934-36	16	18	9
October, 1937.....	386	1936-37	7	53	53
November, 1938.....	386	1937-38	4	4	4

Col. 1. Year and month represents date of issue of the *Jahrbuch*.

Col. 2. Does not include libraries outside the Germany of 1935.

Col. 3. Does not include libraries added through territorial expansion, e.g., Saarbrücken, Vienna, etc.

Col. 4. Includes libraries that closed, merged, or failed to appear in the *Jahrbuch*. Does not include libraries whose entries were transferred in 1936 to the *Handbuch der deutschen Volksbüchereien*.

Col. 5. This annual average corrects for the variations in the periods covered.

* Data from the *Jahrbuch der deutschen Bibliotheken*.

plete year after year, would drop the name of a flourishing library without an explanation. Thus the values given in Table 2 for libraries which closed their doors are values that cannot be disputed, and they represent either actual closing or else a merger with another library. In the latter case a check-up was made for every library merged to see if the total budget of the merged libraries was equal to the total of the two separate

budgets as they existed before the merger took place. In no case was this found to be so. Invariably, the final budget was the same as, or even less than, the pre-merger budget of the larger of the two merging libraries. Mergers of this sort were, therefore, considered to be equivalent to actual discontinuance of one of the merging libraries.⁴⁵

In many cases the *Jahrbuch* actually reported libraries as having ceased to operate. All three categories (i.e., those which ceased to appear in the *Jahrbuch*; those reported as closed; and those announced or discovered to be merged) are listed together as Column 4 in Table 2. Column 5 records these library "deaths" on an annual basis, listing average annual values where the period investigated was greater than one year. These values are expressed graphically in Figure 2.

Results.—The impressive fact of these data is that eighty German libraries saw fit to discontinue operations altogether during the four years after the Hitler ascendancy, whereas the average pre-Nazi rate of discontinuance for similar four-year periods was less than twelve.

The number of libraries that closed their doors per year ranged from only one library (1926-27) to seven (1927-28) during the twelve years prior to National Socialism. The average number for the whole period was three libraries per year. During the four years after 1933, however, an average of twenty libraries closed their doors per year. The 1937-38 year found the rate lowered once again to four libraries.

As for interpreting these values, little can be said except that the unprecedented increase in library deaths between 1936 and 1937 indicates almost revolutionary changes in the scholarly library system, for the fifty-three libraries which closed their doors were not all small and unimportant institutions the loss of which might even make for greater efficiency. A sizable pro-

⁴⁵ The 1936 issue of the *Jahrbuch* ceased to list about a dozen libraries other than those tabulated in Table 2. But these libraries showed up that same year in the *Handbuch der deutschen Volksbüchereien*. This was realized to be merely a transfer of entry, and the libraries were obviously not counted in the tabulation. It might have been valid to have added these dozen libraries to the "Reduction of status" statistics, but they were not added to this list either.

portion were of the 50,000- to 100,000-volume class. Their total budgets, if taken together, represent an important sum of money no longer devoted to library purposes.

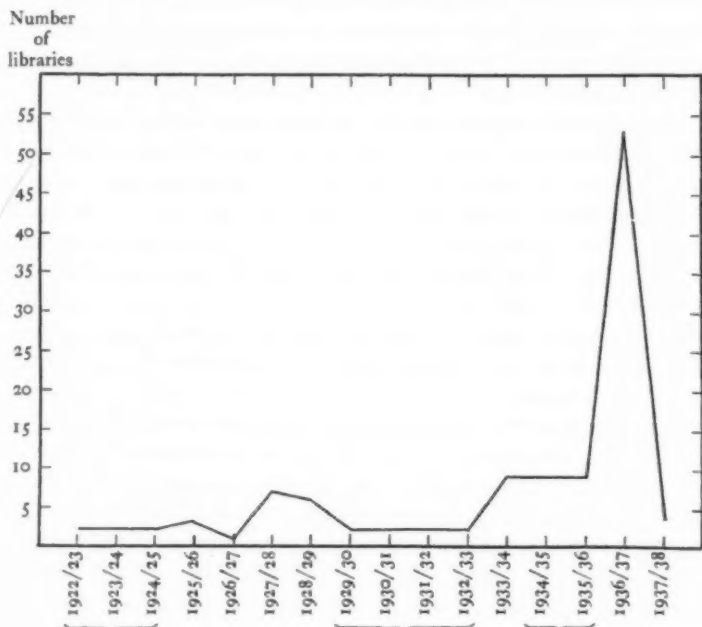


FIG. 2.—Annual number of libraries which closed their doors, 1922-38. The three periods designated above by horizontal brackets are represented in the figure as having the same number of libraries dropped each year during each period. Actually, this may not be the case; but, because data were not available for the separate years, the mathematical average for each year is used in the graph. Thus, the uniformity shown above is statistical rather than actual.

STATISTICS OF LIBRARY GROWTH

The statistics submitted by German libraries to their Library Association and published in the annual *Jahrbuch der deutschen Bibliotheken* reveal illuminating data regarding income, book fund, acquisitions, library use, subject classes predominating in purchases and use, etc. For the purposes of the present study

the annual data concerning (1) books purchased, (2) total acquisitions, (3) number of readers, and (4) books loaned were investigated for the period 1921-38. Statistics of library income and book fund might have proved significant, but the problem of the variations in the value and purchasing-power of the German mark made interpretation of the statistics hazardous, and it was found best to avoid the contingent pitfalls.

The method adopted for the investigation of the four types of data stated above was a simple one. Each year the *Jahrbuch* tabulates the statistics for about fifty German libraries. These are presented in much the same way that the A.L.A. *Bulletin* presents the statistics for American university, college, and public libraries.⁴⁶ For each of the four items on which data was to be collected the annual information was tabulated for two individual libraries; then for each of three groups of eight and ten libraries, a total was computed and tabulated for the same annual information.

Book purchases.—To make clear the actual methodology employed and the reasons for so doing, let us take up the process used in bringing together the data concerning the first fact investigated, namely, the total number of volumes acquired by purchase each year. In the *Jahrbuch's Betriebsstatistik* section this item appears under B1: *Vermehrungsstatistik nach Erwerbungsart und Zuwachs: Art der Erwerbung: Kauf*. Data were assembled from nine annual volumes, at five-year intervals from 1921-22 to 1931-32 and every year thereafter until 1937-38. For each year the number of volumes acquired by purchase was tabulated (1) individually for two large libraries—namely, the Preussische Staatsbibliothek and the Library of the University of Leipzig—and (2) collectively for three groups of eight and ten libraries each (see Table 3). Of the two individual libraries the Preussische Staatsbibliothek, as the German national library, was chosen because it was felt that this library would reflect as immediately as any one library might the tenor of the times. The University of Leipzig Library was selected

⁴⁶ E.g., "College and university library general and salary statistics," *Bulletin of the American Library Association*, XXXIII (1939), 110-15.

as representative of the great university libraries; its size, being the largest of them all, would perhaps tend to emphasize changes.

To minimize the effect of individual factors and individual variations in attempting to interpret national trends, the total number of volumes acquired by purchase was next computed for a group of ten university libraries. These ten were intended to represent a cross-section of university libraries in general. They are the libraries of the universities of

Berlin	Halle
Bonn	Kiel
Breslau	Königsberg
Göttingen	Marburg
Greifswald	Münster

For the same reason, the data concerning the large city and provincial libraries were considered as represented by other groups of eight libraries each. The first group, consisting of those representative of one type of German library, is comprised of the "Breslau group," as follows:

Breslau, Stadtbibliothek
 Dortmund, Stadt- und Landesbibliothek
 Düsseldorf, Landes- und Stadtbibliothek
 Erfurt, Stadtbücherei
 Frankfurt-on-Main, Stadtbibliothek
 Fulda, Landesbibliothek
 Hanover, Stadtbibliothek
 Kassel, Murhardsche Bibliothek der Stadt Kassel

A second group of eight libraries, representing a second type of German library, consists of the following, the "Bremen group":

Bremen, Staatsbibliothek
 Dresden, Sächsische Landesbibliothek
 Karlsruhe, Badische Landesbibliothek
 Lübeck, Stadtbibliothek
 Mainz, Stadtbibliothek
 München, Bayerische Staatsbibliothek
 München, Bibliothek der technischen Hochschule
 Stuttgart, Württembergische Landesbibliothek

The data thus collected on books acquired by purchase are presented in Table 3.

Results.—From the data assembled at least one fact can be stated with certainty, namely, that the National Socialist years have not visibly affected the number of books purchased by the scientific libraries.

The National Library at Berlin bought 40,844 books in 1926–27, which made that the peak year for book-buying. Five years later the number of volumes purchased had been cut in

TABLE 3*
VOLUMES ACQUIRED BY PURCHASE

Library or Group	1921–22	1926–27	1931–32	1932–33	1933–34	1934–35	1935–36	1936–37	1937–38	Increase or Decrease for Period 1932–33 to 1937–38 Per Cent
Berlin Staatsbibliothek.....	14,875	40,844	21,969	23,055	22,917	23,237	36,376	23,844	26,205	+ 9
Leipzig University Library...	5,621	6,053	4,372	5,201	5,993	6,219	5,003	4,982	6,598	+27
Total for ten university libraries	31,936	79,772	66,543	52,472	49,866	51,444	46,847	49,632	55,756	+ 6
Total for eight libraries (Breslau).....	16,211	24,978	16,316	13,141	16,424	17,496	18,128	19,421	20,226	+53
Total for eight libraries (Bremen).....	26,519	38,476	35,536	36,436	37,510	38,934	34,968	34,839	32,807	—10

* Data from *Jahrbuch der deutschen Bibliotheken*.

half, but from then on an annual purchase of around 23,000 books continued without important variations right through to 1937–38, with the exception of the high of 1935–36, when 36,376 books were bought. Thus, the first, second, fourth, and fifth Nazi years show no appreciable change in the book-buying rate of the National Library, with the third Nazi year showing nearly a 50 per cent increase in the actual number of volumes. The 1937–38 book-buying shows a somewhat insignificant increase of 9 per cent over that of 1932–33.

The case of the Leipzig University Library closely parallels that of the National Library. From 1921–22 until 1937–38 book-buying averaged around five thousand volumes. What

variations occur from year to year are probably due to quite another set of causes than the coming of Herr Hitler, since they cannot be related to the 1933 period. A spurt in buying in 1937-38 renders an increase of 27 per cent over 1932-33, 6,598 volumes as against 5,201, but this large increase is not typical of the earlier post-Hitler years; 1936-37, for instance, is somewhat below the pre-Hitler year (4,982 volumes).

The ten university libraries buy a total of about 50,000 volumes per year; 1926-27 was an exceptional peak year, however, when 79,772 volumes were purchased. The 52,472 volumes of 1932-33 fell by 2,600 volumes in 1933-34, and no post-Hitler year matched the 1932-33 high until 1937-38 brought 55,756 volumes to the ten libraries by purchase—an increase of 6 per cent over 1932-33. These fluctuations are obviously not significant, and we cannot draw any conclusions relating to our main question, except to say that book purchases have appeared to remain steady in the university libraries during the 1933-38 period.

The first group of eight city libraries (the Breslau group) shows much greater annual variations. Beginning with 1933-34 every post-Hitler year shows an increase in purchases over the preceding year until the year 1937-38, which, with 20,226 volumes bought, shows a 53 per cent increase over 1932-33. However, this steady increase is deceptive, since 1932-33, with 13,141 volumes, is an all-time low in book-buying, and 1926-27, with its peak of 24,978 volumes, exceeds all the post-Hitler years. This suggests, then, that the rate of book-buying cannot be correlated with the Nazi regime.

As for the second group of eight city libraries (the Bremen group), the variations very closely parallel those of the Leipzig University Library, with the exception of the 1937-38 book purchases (32,807 volumes), which show a decrease of 10 per cent under the 1932-33 purchases (36,436 volumes). Two post-Nazi years show a small increase; two show a small decline. In general, the book-buying of this group has remained surprisingly stable (around 35,000 volumes) during both the pre-Nazi and the Nazi periods.

In conclusion, then, we can repeat that book-buying in the scholarly libraries has been unaffected by National Socialism, at least as far as actual numbers of volumes are concerned.

Total acquisitions.—The second set of data investigated concerns the total number of volumes acquired, whether by purchase, gift, exchange, or other means. The method of tabulating and the libraries chosen were the same as in the case of the books-purchased statistics. The results are given in Table 4.

TABLE 4*

TOTAL NUMBER OF VOLUMES ACQUIRED BY PURCHASE, GIFT, EXCHANGE, ETC.

Library or Group	1921-22	1926-27	1931-32	1932-33	1933-34	1934-35	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38	Increase or Decrease for Period 1932-33 to 1937-38 Per Cent
Berlin Staatsbibliothek.....	56,321	97,030	84,852	92,828	83,640	85,176	100,387	91,163	91,805	- 1
Leipzig University Library...	17,390	23,466	24,562	27,971	34,735	28,212	27,664	33,160	30,375	+ 9
Total for ten university libraries.....	128,692	212,453	229,101	215,656	227,339	235,979	222,017	214,334	230,242	+ 7
Total for eight libraries (Breslau).....	40,729	49,487	53,932	44,054	44,958	84,234*	64,246	55,659	64,401	+46
Total for eight libraries (Bremen).....	106,101	107,440	115,915	119,239	116,129	120,151	109,728	98,680	95,022	-20

* Includes 42,491 volumes received as a gift by the Dusseldorf LuStB. Data is from the *Jahrbuch der deutschen Bibliotheken*.

Results.—The data on total volumes acquired closely parallel those of books purchased, and no correlation can be seen between the coming of National Socialism in 1933 and library acquisitions in the scholarly-type libraries.

The National Library in Berlin has been adding around 90,000 volumes a year since at least 1926. The 93,828 volumes of 1932-33 fell to 83,640 in 1933-34 but in two years rose again to 100,387 volumes (1935-36), representing an all-time high. The two years that followed were lower again, and 1937-38, with 91,805 volumes, represents an unimportant 1 per cent decrease from 1932-33.

For the Leipzig University Library the peak year came in

1933-34, immediately after the Nazi advent—34,735 volumes as against 27,971 volumes in 1932-33. This spurt was not maintained throughout the five Nazi years, however, although most of those years showed acquisitions in excess of the last pre-Hitler year. In 1937-38, 30,375 volumes were added—an increase of 9 per cent over 1932-33.

The ten university libraries, with 215,656 volumes acquired in 1932-33 and 230,242 volumes in 1937-38, closely follow the trend indicated for Leipzig. The annual variations around 220,000 volumes are minor ones, and the ultimate 7 per cent increase of 1937-38 over 1932-33 seems of little significance.

For the Breslau group of eight city libraries, on the other hand, the increases in acquisitions since 1933 is considerable. From 44,054 volumes in 1932-33 the figure has climbed every year until 1937-38 showed 64,401 volumes acquired—an increase of 46 per cent over 1932-33. This is the same group of libraries that showed a 53 per cent increase in book purchases during the same period. Although that increase could not be associated with the coming of National Socialism in 1933, the increase in total acquisitions seems significant, at least in relation to the year 1933.

In contrast, however, the second group of city libraries (of the Bremen type) shows a decline in total acquisitions. This decline began immediately in 1933-34, with a drop from 119,239 volumes (1932-33) to 116,129 volumes. The next year showed a small spurt, but subsequent years continue the decline. The low of 1937-38 (95,022 volumes) represents a 20 per cent falling-off since 1932-33. The 1933-38 decline is more significant when it is seen that it followed a period of increasing book accessions from 1921 to 1932.

Concerning the total acquisitions of German scholarly libraries, then, we cannot conclude that there has been any fundamental change since the beginning of National Socialism, except perhaps for certain of the larger city libraries. The fact that the rate of adding books has been largely maintained is in itself a good sign, since the rate at which a library adds to its book stock has long been considered a criterion of an institu-

tion's healthy progress. The question of the quality of the acquisitions is one that is not taken up in the present study.

Comparison of book purchases with total acquisitions.—The relation between the number of volumes purchased and the number acquired by gift and other means is important, if it is true that a predominance of gifts over purchases takes much of the book-selecting out of the library's hands, at least to the extent of modifying the established selection policies. In view of the statement of Wolf von Both, mentioned earlier in this paper,

TABLE 5*

VOLUMES ACQUIRED BY PURCHASE IN PROPORTION TO TOTAL ACQUISITIONS

Library or Group	1932-33			1937-38		
	Total Volumes Acquired	Volumes Acquired by Purchase	Percentage of Total Acquired by Purchase	Total Volumes Acquired	Volumes Acquired by Purchase	Percentage of Total Acquired by Purchase
Berlin Staatsbibliothek . . .	92,828	23,055	24	91,805	26,205	28
Leipzig University Library	27,971	5,201	19	30,375	6,598	22
Ten university libraries . .	215,656	52,472	24	230,242	55,756	24
Eight libraries (Breslau) . .	44,054	13,141	30	64,401	20,226	31
Eight libraries (Bremen) . .	119,239	36,436	31	95,022	32,807	34

* Data from *Jahrbuch der deutschen Bibliotheken*.

that the increase in the proportion of gifts has resulted in the acquisition of smaller, less significant works, an examination should be made of this proportion.

From Tables 3 and 4 the data that express this relation are drawn and are summarized in Table 5.

The data collected show that there has been little change in the proportion of books acquired by purchase and those acquired by other means. This is contrary to the impression given in the articles in the German library literature by Herr Both but may be due to the lack of data at hand.

For both the National Library and the Leipzig University Library, as well as for the three groups, 1937-38 shows a small increase in the percentage of books acquired by purchase over

the same percentage for 1932-33. The variations in this percentage among the separate libraries and groups of libraries within the same period (19-31 per cent in 1932-33; 22-34 per cent in 1937-38) is greater than the greatest variation between the two periods for any one library or group of libraries (24 per cent for 1932-33 to 28 per cent for 1937-38 in the case of the National Library).

These data indicate, therefore, that there has been no significant change in the last six years in the proportion of books ac-

TABLE 6*

NUMBER OF READERS THAT USED THE READING ROOMS DURING THE YEAR

Library or Group	1921-22	1926-27	1931-32	1932-33	1933-34	1934-35	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38	Decrease for Period 1932-33 to 1937-38 Per Cent
Berlin Staatsbibliothek.....	317,994	502,143	683,264	728,404	504,432	544,257	491,735	645,540	522,630	-28
Leipzig University Library.....	24,371	29,863	58,247	64,050	57,650	52,737	50,877	44,814	39,088	-39
Total for ten university libraries	377,790	582,883	943,187	973,724	738,922	533,766	563,288	387,912	339,035	-65
Total for eight libraries (Breslau).....	121,360	136,180	170,949	167,638	160,647	151,898	143,535	135,241	127,744	-24
Total for eight libraries (Bremen).....	274,026	337,891	554,354	560,280	486,667	407,519	356,126	353,425	343,564	-39

* Data from the *Jahrbuch der deutschen Bibliotheken*.

quired by purchase to the total number acquired by other means.

Readers' use of German libraries.—A third set of data concerns the number of readers that used the reading-room of German libraries. This item appears in the *Jahrbuch* as C2: *Benutzung am Ort: Benutzung im Lesesaal: Zahl der Benutzung*. The process of collecting the data was much the same as that used for book acquisition, but in selecting the libraries for the Bremen group, the Dresden Stadtbibliothek was substituted for the Stuttgart Landesbibliothek. This was necessary because the statistics concerning the number of reading-room users are not given in the *Jahrbuch* for the Stuttgart institution. The results appear in Table 6.

Results.—The data show clearly that in this case a definite and immediate falling-off of readers has followed the 1933 appearance of National Socialism. The number of users of the National Library decreased more than 44 per cent in one year and has remained considerably reduced during the five years that have followed. Whereas 728,404 people used its reading-rooms in 1932-33, no subsequent year saw more than 544,000, except 1936-37, when a small spurt brought the total up to 645,540. The 522,630 readers of 1937-38 represent a loss of 205,774 readers (about 676 a day) and a decrease of 28 per cent since 1932-33.

The University of Leipzig Library experienced a similar dropping-off the first year, and during the last five years the number has been progressively less. The years 1937-38 brought only 60 per cent as many readers into the reading-rooms as the 1932-33 school year did; the decrease amounted to 39 per cent—39,088 readers as against 64,050 in 1932-33.

Nor is the University of Leipzig Library losing readers as rapidly as the other university libraries. The readers have become fewer and fewer every year in the group of ten libraries, until in 1937-38 there were only about one-third as many as in the last pre-Hitler year—339,035 readers as compared with 973,724 for 1932-33. Reduced to a daily average, this means that, while the customary daily attendance was 3,357 readers in 1932-33, five years later it had fallen to 1,169 readers. The decrease amounts to 65 per cent. This decrease is considerably more than that given in the German library literature, as mentioned earlier in the present paper.

For the two groups of city and provincial libraries the decrease in library users is not so great as in the case of the university libraries, amounting by 1937-38 to a 24 per cent and a 39 per cent decrease, respectively. This eventual decrease was preceded by a regular falling-off, year by year, in both groups. The decline began without delay during the first Nazi year, 1933-34, whereas the pre-Nazi period was marked by a consistent climb in number of readers. The eight libraries of the Bremen group had 560,280 readers in 1932-33 but counted only

343,564 in 1937-38, much less than two-thirds as many. The decline in the Breslau group, though not so great, has been considerable. The eight libraries counted 167,638 readers in 1932-33, but only 127,744 in 1937-38.

The conclusions to be reached from these data are that without a doubt National Socialism in Germany has been accompanied by a marked decline in the number of people using the scholarly libraries and that this drop has been most noticeable in the case of the university libraries.

TABLE 7*

NUMBER OF VOLUMES LOANED FOR OUTSIDE USE DURING THE YEAR

Library or Group	1921-22	1926-27	1931-32	1932-33	1933-34	1934-35	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38	Decrease for Period 1932-33 to 1937-38 Per Cent
Berlin Staatsbibliothek...	288,597	310,490	497,927	523,112	357,436	354,352	365,779	375,947	354,024	-32
Leipzig University Library...	55,724	66,726	97,231	104,256	84,991	86,538	71,738	51,777	46,067	-56
Total for ten university libraries...	523,197	632,988	982,487	1,017,129	886,583	811,422	768,765	690,835	652,543	-36
Total for eight libraries (Breslau)...	232,816	241,947	346,236	340,533	293,595	284,930	276,552	269,342	256,086	-25
Total for eight libraries (Bremen)...	372,518	509,343	640,921	676,719	584,715	560,120	443,276	387,488	372,583	-45

* Data from the *Jahrbuch der deutschen Bibliotheken*.

Books loaned for outside use.—The fourth and last item to come under scrutiny was the number of volumes loaned to borrowers for use outside the reading-rooms. In the *Jahrbuch* the data appear as C2: *Ausleihung am Ort: Zahl der verliehenen Bände*. For this item the ten university libraries and the sixteen other libraries remained the same, except that the Dresden Stadtbibliothek in the last group was replaced by the Stuttgart Landesbibliothek, thus restoring the group to its original form. The results appear in Table 7.

Results.—Again we find for all libraries an immediate and sustained decline beginning with the Hitler year of 1933. This decrease is large enough to contradict the 1938 statement of

Rudolf Kummer that, although a decrease in the number of users has been noticed in university libraries, there has been a pronounced increase in the number of volumes requested.⁴⁷

Prior to the coming to power of Hitler, there was a regular annual increase in the number of books loaned at the National Library, climbing from 288,597 volumes in 1921-22 to 523,112 in 1932-33. The next year saw a precipitous drop to 357,436 volumes, and during the following years the low point has been maintained, standing at 354,024 volumes in 1937-38—a decrease of 32 per cent since 1932-33.

Leipzig University Library reports an even greater decrease, accompanied by a steady decline, from 104,256 volumes loaned in 1932-33 to 46,067 in 1937-38—a drop of 56 per cent. The number of volumes loaned for reading-room use at Leipzig during the same period runs as follows:

1932-33.....	50,335	1935-36.....	35,660
1933-34.....	29,689	1936-37.....	29,442
1934-35.....	35,247	1937-38.....	27,050

This marked decrease in reading-room use from 50,335 volumes to 27,050 volumes makes it very clear that the total number of requests for books could not possibly have increased at Leipzig, and the data for the other university libraries show Leipzig to be typical of the trend.

In other university libraries the decrease in use was not so great, though the steady falling-off in number of volumes loaned outside amounted by 1937-38 to a 36 per cent decrease: 1,017,129 volumes in 1932-33; 652,543 volumes in 1937-38. The decrease, nevertheless, is an inordinately large one. Calculated on the basis of daily circulation, it means that, whereas the average university circulated for outside reading 351 books a day in 1932-33, the figure had fallen to 225 a day by 1937-38.

That this decrease is general throughout the other libraries of the Reich is indicated by the data for the two groups of city libraries. For these libraries the outside circulation is today approaching half of what it was before National Socialism. The Breslau group circulated 340,533 volumes in 1932-33 but only

⁴⁷ See above, p. 11.

256,086 volumes in 1937-38—a decrease of 25 per cent. The Bremen group reported 676,719 volumes circulated in 1932-33 and 372,583 volumes in 1937-38—a decrease of 45 per cent.

A NOTE ON PROFESSIONAL LIBRARY PERIODICALS

Before we take final leave of the German libraries let us make a superficial examination of the professional-library periodicals to see how much light, if any, they shed on the question of the present outlook and attitudes of German librarians. We know that the two important library journals have not followed the example of their sociological contemporaries by departing to the somewhat freer air of Paris or London. But a question to decide is whether they have turned pure propaganda organs like *Logos* or have remained faithful media for the presentation of library problems and professional research.

A satisfactory answer to this question would, of course, require a careful reading plus an objective analysis of a large cross-section of the articles that have appeared in both periodicals. Nevertheless, even a short association with recent issues of both the *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* and *Die Bücherei* gives an immediate impression of the periodicals' constant preoccupation with questions highly political in nature. This fact has probably already been suggested by the early section of the present paper, when recent German library events were outlined. Criteria of this sort are admittedly subjective and must be accepted as such.

An examination of recent issues of the *Zentralblatt*, which, by its nature, should presumably be less concerned with political questions, indicates a definite trend away from the realm of pure research and in the direction of questions involving the library and the state, the politics of librarians, and the role of librarianship in National Socialism. It is to be remembered that the *Zentralblatt* is within eight years of being as old as the *Library journal*; its first number appeared in 1884, and it is regarded as the semiofficial organ of the German Library Association. Thus the flood of articles on subjects which show that German libraries are very much involved in and very much

concerned about the present political situation indicates, if nothing else, that German librarianship is undergoing a distinct alteration of aims and objectives, even though the facts themselves are subject to a variety of interpretations.

A great deal could be written on the subject of how the library periodicals have adopted a large measure of the language and outlook of the present National Socialist variety of educational principles. Even the reader whose German proceeds ever so falteringly cannot fail to detect the new atmosphere, largely because he finds throughout the articles a tendency to employ the same words and phrases which he has come to associate with the political oratory of the Third Reich. The repetition of the words *Kultur* and *Kulturpolitik* and all the other expressions of the "greater" Germany—they are a leitmotif that was not played as fortissimo seven years ago. Perhaps the best way to illustrate this impression is to quote an account given in the August, 1938, *Zentralblatt* concerning the first general session of the German Library Association's annual meeting, held June 7-11, 1938, at Passau. This summary of the proceedings is translated as literally as was possible.

The festive opening of the librarians' session took place the following morning at 9 o'clock, in the ballroom, which was decorated holiday-fashion in the colors of the Third Reich. Telegrams were dispatched to Der Führer and Reichschancellor and to the Reich Minister of Science, Education, and Public Instruction.

Abb of Berlin, the president of the VDB [the Library Association], greeted the Oberburgesmeister District-leader Moosbauer and the representatives of the Party, of the state, and of the defense-forces and cordially welcomed those who were participating so very numerously in the sessions; his especial welcome went to the professional comrades from Austria. The session began in the dawn of a great historical epoch, when for the first time our Austrian comrades could participate in the session as free German men; not with empty hands are the Austrian comrades come to us, but they bring to Germany 12 million volumes, among them the priceless jewel of the Vienna National Library.

The Oberburgesmeister of the host city, District-leader Moosbauer, extended heart-felt greetings to the gathering of librarians as guardians of the most valuable culture-materials [*Kulturgutes*] of Passau. Minister-councilor Freiherr von Stengel conveyed the wishes of the Bavarian Ministry of Educa-

tion. The president thanked the speakers and concluded with a *Sieg-Heil* to the Führer. The Deutschland song and the Horst-Wessel song then thundered through the hall.⁴⁸

CONCLUSIONS

From the objective data assembled certain positive conclusions can be drawn concerning the turnover of librarians, the closing of libraries, the acquisitions of books, and the use made of libraries by readers.

Prior to March, 1933, the annual turnover of head-librarians in scholarly libraries averaged about one in twenty. After that date the average rose immediately to almost one in five. There has been a small but positive increase in the number of head-librarianships that have remained vacant over a period of a year or more. A number of scholarly libraries have been so reduced in status that important staff positions have disappeared. At least eighty German scholarly libraries discontinued operations during the first four years of National Socialism; the average number that closed their doors per year rose from three libraries before Hitler to twenty libraries after his appearance.

Neither the number of books purchased nor the total number of volumes acquired by the scholarly libraries appear to have been affected by the coming of National Socialism, at least as far as the actual numbers of volumes is concerned. The proportion of gifts to purchases has remained approximately the same. There has been a decrease of about 50 per cent in the number of people using the scholarly libraries. Ten university libraries had 3,357 readers a day in 1932-33 but only 1,169 a day in 1937-38. Finally, the number of books loaned for outside use has fallen to a point where the scholarly libraries are lending only about half as many books as formerly.

⁴⁸ *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, LV (1938), 368.

A CONSIDERATION OF THE FUTURE RELATIONS OF THE MEDICAL LIBRARIES WITH OUR NATIONAL MEDICAL LIBRARY¹

HAROLD WELLINGTON JONES

NOW that the new Army Medical Library, which may well be regarded as our national medical library, is *in esse* and no longer merely *in posse*, it should be a matter of interest to the medical libraries of this country to concern themselves with what may perhaps rise from Capitol Hill in the years to come. This library is a great trust. It belongs to the nation, and the United States Army Medical Department is but the custodian.

It may be said that every library which is not merely a repository of books is constantly growing as the library becomes more and more recognized, more and more important, more and more depended upon. The Army Medical Library has passed through what we may call an aging or mellowing process in the same manner as many other great American libraries. Not only did its collection grow rapidly and steadily but, by the services the institution assumed, it gradually passed its rivals until today, owing to the generosity of the American people and their Congress, it stands out as a medical bibliographic center not only of the Western Hemisphere but of the whole world.

The Army Medical Library now conducts a number of rapidly expanding activities. It is the largest and most complete medical library in existence, having considerably more than 400,000 bound volumes and about 600,000 other items which are cataloged and accessible, such as theses, reprints, pamphlets, etc. It has already cataloged more than 3,000,000 references. In addition it prints the *Index catalog*, now in its sixtieth year and its fifty-second volume, in which the formidable mass of medical

¹ An address delivered before members of the Charlotte Medical Library at Charlotte, N.C., May 6, 1940.

literature belonging to us is carefully classified and cataloged so that it may be accessible to anyone. The library conducts a loan system, much of it by mail, and it loans more than 15,000 books annually. It has thousands of visitors, students, and research workers every year and would have many more if it had adequate accommodations for them and could encourage their attendance.

Little by little the space required for the books has been encroaching upon that required for readers, workers, and for the actual conduct of the library itself, until lately it has reached the point where a portion of the collection will soon have to be moved elsewhere to provide room for a continued orderly existence. The library has practically the same floor area it had twenty-five years ago, in spite of the enormous increase of medical literature and the work required. It occupies, with all its activities, less than 40,000 square feet of space. A large portion of this is in a dusty, inaccessible basement, and at present more than 40,000 volumes are placed where it is difficult to get at them. The building is without elevators and without any of the requirements for a modern library. In a word, it is the largest and most complete medical library in the world, and it is undoubtedly the worst housed.

The special aims and functions which distinguish one library from another necessarily require, for example, that the ordinary public library for the general entertainment and education of citizens be built and organized somewhat differently from a library intended for a university, for a state, for a federal department, or for the nation. The particular, not to say unique, functions of our institution, even if we disregard its actual material growth, make the present building of the Army Medical Library, in form as well as in size, entirely insufficient for present-day needs. This inadequacy dates not from 1940 or 1930 but almost from the year 1887, when the present structure was erected.

At that time the building was called the Army Medical Museum and Library, with emphasis on the museum feature. Dr. Billings, the first officer in charge of the Museum and Li-

brary, as well as several of his successors, was called "curator of the museum," and not "librarian." The library was planned, according to his instructions, to be a museum and library for the army; but with all his far-sightedness, he probably did not realize that the two fundamentally different army institutions would gradually drift apart—one becoming, by reason of its astounding acquisitions and its *Index catalog*, the medical library of the nation and the medical bibliographical center of the world, the other becoming, through an unrivaled national collection of pathological specimens, the center of histopathological research.

Service to the nation is naturally a much wider function than service to the army alone, and in planning a new building and a new organization for the library and the museum one should approach the problem—keeping the present functional character of the two institutions in mind—with a proper consideration of the present and future tendencies of medicobibliographical and histopathological research.

It is impossible to state with anything like accuracy the future requirements of the library if we look forward even fifty years. The rate of production of medical literature is increasing enormously, and this includes of course the literature of the sciences allied to medicine, such as biology, chemistry, etc. It will not be enough to provide merely housing room for future accessions. It is necessary to envision a medical library as a growing concern which will keep up with the times, which will be, as it is rapidly becoming, the national medical library or the parent medical library of the United States.

There are now more than two hundred and fifty medical libraries in the United States which are banded together in an association called the Medical Library Association, and these libraries look to the Army Medical Library for assistance in a host of ways; there are many others who are potential affiliates. It is unnecessary for the smaller or even the larger medical libraries of the United States to hold a great part of the medical literature available, but it is exceedingly important that we have one medical library which will hold everything possible and

which will know where what it does not have can be found, so that all the medical literature of the world will be accessible to the people of the United States. There should be a national medical library which can undertake to aid libraries and individuals throughout the country in matters of bibliographical research. That is what this library is doing now and means to continue doing in the future.

Let us now examine some of the possibilities in detail, more especially those things which librarians, teachers, or writers of the medical world do not have constantly at their beck and call.

Undoubtedly the most important activity which we see in the future is the assembling of a "World catalog of medical publications" from the beginning of the art of printing in 1440 to the present. What is this to be? How much of an undertaking is it? And how badly do the medical libraries and their patrons want it? Perhaps we can best answer the questions by considering, first, the needs of the individual scientist. The medical scientist makes certain observations and attempts to draw his conclusions. He makes the same observations repeatedly and sees, or thinks he sees, a regularity in the observed phenomena, and he wishes to know whether or not his practical or theoretical conclusions are correct. He checks and rechecks his results, first by experiments and then by comparing them with the observations of others. For experimentation he goes to his laboratory or clinic. He then consults his own library and examines the indexes of a large number of books and periodicals. Perhaps he finds a few pages in one of his books, an article or two in his medical journals, on the subject in which he is interested. This may satisfy him, but probably it does not, and he turns to the nearest medical library for further help.

From this point on his needs and desires are common with the needs and desires of our medical libraries and medical librarians. He finds part of the books and journals he wished to read in the nearest medical library. He also finds there such keys to medical literature as the *Index catalog* of the Army Medical Library and the *Quarterly cumulative index medicus* of the American Medical Association. By consulting these keys for his specific subject

and by reading the available publications in his local medical library he usually discovers so many new references to books and journal articles which he feels he must read that his list of desiderata soon becomes very long. The local medical librarian takes this list, gets out the books and periodicals from his stacks, but he finds that he cannot supply the doctor with everything that is desired. Part of the doctor's request is turned over to a larger library, let us suppose to the Army Medical Library, with an accompanying letter something like the following:

- a) Please let us have these books and periodicals by interlibrary loan.
- b) If some of them are not in your possession, kindly advise us in which American library they are available.
- c) What other books have been published throughout the centuries on this subject?

Now the whole problem of the search is laid, so to speak, in the lap of the Army Medical Library. These requests, which come week after week, month after month, year after year, to our library, have been a very active and important factor in molding the aims and ultimate purposes of our institution. We wish always to answer these various questions fully, surely, and as promptly as possible. Is our library in the position to do so? Is there any other medical or public library here or abroad which has the facilities for such an important service? If not, how could such an ideal library service be brought nearer to reality?

Our library, like all other larger American public and medical libraries, was established in the nineteenth century. Necessarily it contains, for the most part, the literature of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, since its chief interest has been the current medical literature of those two centuries. What its *Index catalog* represents, therefore, is mostly material from the last one hundred years. Dr. John Shaw Billings, the founder of the *Index catalog* and the great librarian of the New York Public Library, once said that more than 80 per cent of the medical literature is held by the Army Medical Library and is listed by the *Index catalog*. This is probably true of the literature of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Is this also true of the fifteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries? I think not.

We have many old books, many rare books from this earlier period, but how much we have missed we do not know at present. What older books not in our collection may be found in other American libraries we cannot now answer either fully or quickly. The *Union catalog* of the Library of Congress is limited to the holdings of a certain number of libraries, and the chances are that they do not have what we do not possess, since these libraries are but a few years older than our own.

There is no exhaustive subject key to the medical literature before 1800, no index catalog, and the consultation of contemporary bibliographies such as those of Gesner in the sixteenth century and of Haller in the eighteenth century leaves always a certain feeling of insecurity and doubt when we attempt to hunt up all possible sources of bibliographical information on this earlier literature. With all available bibliographical apparatus at his elbow, the librarian still remains impotent to cope with such tasks as the assembling of the complete bibliography of an author of classical antiquity, of the middle ages, or even of a writer of the period before 1800. This is the problem which confronts the medical librarians and individual scientists all over the world.

The only possible solution of this world-wide problem with its individual, local, and national ramifications is the building-up of a huge card file of titles of all books and pamphlets, however small, which have ever been published in the world related to medicine and the allied sciences. This "World catalog of medical books" has become the ideal toward which our Army Medical Library is striving now. We feel that our library has all the necessary tools and material for such an undertaking of international interest, and our possession of the most important key to medical literature, the *Index catalog*, imposes upon us the duty of such an undertaking. Thus the "World catalog of medical books" will be a supplement or rather the final completion of the *Index catalog*. This "World catalog of medical books" will consist essentially of two parts—one an author file and the other a subject file. Each author card will show the American and foreign libraries where the work is available for inspection or for

loan. Thus this huge catalog will be an index of the medical holdings of all public libraries and of all American medical libraries—actually a sort of union list for the whole medical world. The task to be undertaken is great, and the work is arduous in its details, for it will be necessary to acquire the card catalogs of each American library and, particularly, of each medical library. This must be done either by photostatic or by microfilm reproduction. In the end, if we can successfully execute this dream, we shall have a true medical bibliographical center of the world in the Army Medical Library and a true and trustworthy *corpus librorum medicorum bibliographicum*, as Dr. Mayer of our library says, in the *Index catalog* and its complement, the "World catalog."

The need for such a catalog has been felt for many years and especially since the rate of book production has so greatly increased. We must not be discouraged by the difficulties or by the cries of the pessimists. As far back as 1602 a scholar of jaundiced eye, Despois, seeing a bookseller's newly edited catalog with so many books offered, allowed his melancholy to take possession of him thus, in lines which I quote:

To me this book brings tears and not delight

Death strikes them while by daring deeds
 They seek to snatch the laurel leaf to Fame.

Their labours have been vain, they are forgot,
 Their books have perished; nought remains
 Except their titles in a catalogue.²

Two hundred years later, in 1827, seeing previous efforts of medical men to classify their own literature and the difficulties with which they met, Monfalcon thought it impossible ever to make a complete index of medical publications, and he was led to say: "The production of an entirely complete medical bibliography is a task whose execution is impossible; it is in vain that the learned of all nations shall bend all their efforts to gather in a general list the titles of all the works which have

² Martin Despois, *Too many books*, ed. and trans. by W. E. A. Axon, "A seventeenth century lament on 'Too many books,'" *Library*, III, 3d ser. (London, 1912), 33-37.

been published in medical science, for a large portion will escape their search."³

The size of our "World catalog" cannot even be estimated, for to tell how many books have been published in the field of medicine is as difficult as to speculate over the total book production of the whole world during the last 500 years. There are certain definite figures, however, for certain periods and for certain nations. Up to the year 1500 the total number of books (including different editions) is estimated at about 30,000. If we accept as a fact that the 450 incunabula in the Army Medical Library represent about all the medical literature of the fifteenth century, then the percentage of medical-book production was about 1.02 per cent of the total production. It is more than probable, however, that our library lacks many of the various editions, and so the rate of medical-book production for the fifteenth century should be corrected to about 1.5 per cent of the total.

Consulting various old and new bibliographical lists and considering the slow spread of printing, first limited to central and western Europe, then spreading to the Americas, and becoming universal in the twentieth century, we may assume that up to 1940, during a period of 500 years, the total number of individual works and their various editions amounts to a staggering total of between 14,000,000 and 18,000,000! We may add that almost half of this literature has been published within the last 80 years.

On the basis of this estimate, and taking the present percentage of book production in medicine and the allied sciences as about 10 per cent, the total number of medical works already published might be somewhere between 1,500,000 and 1,800,000. At the end of the twentieth century it could well reach 2,500,000. For the filing of 2,500,000 author cards and as many subject cards we shall need about 3,000 drawers in 80 large filing cases. Nevertheless it should be done, and we are best equipped to do it.

What are some of the other objectives which are of interest to the medical profession at large? One of these is the assembling

³ J. B. Monfalcon, *Précis de bibliographie médicale* (Paris, 1827), quoted by L. Hahn, *Essai de bibliographie médicale* (Paris: G. Steinheil, 1897), p. 68.

and development of special reference collections. As you may know, we have the largest medical statistical library to be found anywhere. The nucleus of this was the library of the Prudential Insurance Company, which was presented to us through Dr. Hoffman some years ago. It has now more than 40,000 volumes devoted to such subjects as health statistics of cities and states of the United States and most of the countries of the world. There are also hundreds of volumes on vital statistics and a very complete set of hospital reports from municipalities of this and many foreign countries. The completeness of the collection is remarkable, since it contains reports from the most inaccessible regions of the globe.

Another special collection will cover such subjects as military medicine, in which a recent bibliography, hastily and incompletely made last year in connection with a special exhibit, alone showed more than 200 works since 1549.

A third subject to be covered is legal medicine, in which our collection now numbers about 1,500 volumes. In addition to this a special worker, who possessed both a medical degree and a law degree, began about two years ago to compile a bibliography on the subject of forensic medicine and, in that time, completed 3,000 references. Lack of funds prevented the library from continuing this work, in a field which is practically virgin territory in library work. There are several other collections, including the clinical specialties, which could be covered in much the same way with adequate facilities.

For those interested in the history of medicine, our rare-book collection, consisting of many thousands of volumes, will be made available to qualified workers. It will probably be advisable to establish a book museum, not now possible because of the lack of space. This will show the entire process of writing and producing medical books and pamphlets as practiced throughout the centuries since the invention of printing. It will indicate also the different types of medical publishing and of printing and will illustrate the events in the life of the publishing firms, the growth of the medical-book trade, and the history of medical-book collections both private and public.

Just how far into the educational and publishing field we can

venture in the future we do not know. Necessarily the funds appropriated and the policies laid down by the War Department and the surgeon general of the army will have to determine this. Perhaps, if we are worthy of it, some private funds will be made available for specific purposes. We can certainly begin by placing the fullest facilities possible at the disposal of those qualified to do bibliographic research. In this connection it is my earnest hope that the Medical Library Association will have a permanent representative with us in the future to the end that the needs of the medical libraries of this country will be served with due regard to the interests of all.

I have not mentioned thus far the relations of our library with the Library of Congress. Recently Dr. MacLeish, the able and gifted head of that great institution, in referring to our library said: "The Surgeon General's Library is one of the greatest special collections of books ever put together, if not, indeed, the greatest, and its present lack of housing holds tragic possibilities for American learning and for the good repute of American learning."⁴ In recent conversations with Dr. MacLeish and his colleagues I have been impressed by their attitude of helpfulness and their desire for co-operation.

The recent address of the Hon. Ross Collins, of Mississippi, on the floor of the House of Representatives is noteworthy in its broad vision of the future of education and in its emphasizing the importance of preserving our American culture. In this address Mr. Collins advocates unstinted support for the libraries as a vital step in the continued defense of our liberties. Particularly should it interest us who are concerned with the future of our libraries, for Mr. Collins sees far ahead; he sees a great educational center on the American Acropolis, and he tells us that our Army Medical Library holds an honored place in this plan for the future. If the dream of assembling all the great federal libraries in a group around the Congressional Library becomes true, then indeed will the Army Medical Library fully realize its usefulness to American medicine.

⁴ Archibald MacLeish, "In current comment," *Journal of the American Medical Association*, CXIV (1940), 964.

SOME RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN SUBJECT CATALOGING IN GERMANY

SIGISMUND RUNGE

Translated by

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BEFORE we can properly understand and evaluate any new developments in cataloging¹ in a foreign country we must, of course, first be familiar with the catalogs and the cataloging practices of libraries in that country. German research libraries,² in particular, differ so widely from their American counterparts in the kind and number of catalogs they maintain and consider essential that it seems quite in order to preface this account of recent developments with a brief description of the catalogs regularly found in German research libraries and with some observations on their function in the service of these libraries.

In every larger German research library there are two main catalogs:³ (1) an alphabetically arranged catalog by authors and anonymous titles ("*Alphabetischer Katalog*" or "*Nominal-Katalog*") that shows whether the library has a particular book whose author or, in the case of an anonymous⁴ publication, whose

¹ Throughout this article the term "cataloging" by itself will be used, like the German "*Katalogisierung*," to include both author and title cataloging and subject cataloging. The general acceptance of the term with this meaning would undoubtedly be desirable.

² We shall concern ourselves here only with so-called "scholarly" or "research" libraries. This group includes the German university and technical high-school libraries and the official state and province libraries—specifically, those libraries that are covered by the cataloging survey made by the Ausschuss für Sachkatalogisierung and published under the title *Die Kataloge der grösseren Bibliotheken des deutschen Sprachgebietes* (Berlin, 1935). The editor of this work, Hans Trebst, who was chairman of the Ausschuss, died in 1935. For reviews see *Library Association record*, III (1936), 38-39; and *Library journal*, LXI (1936), 108.

³ For dissertations, manuscripts, etc., special supplementary catalogs are usually provided.

⁴ "Anonymous" in the sense explained in the next paragraph.

title is known, and (2) a subject catalog ("*Sachkatalog*") that shows what books the library has on a particular subject. A single main catalog to answer these two fundamentally different questions (as the American dictionary catalog [*"Kreuzkatalog"*] does) is to be found, according to the tabulation at the end of Trebst's survey,⁵ in only two of the larger German libraries: the Patent Office Library⁶ in Berlin and the State and Municipal Library of Augsburg.

Before we take up the subject catalog in more detail a few words should be said about the alphabetical author and title catalog in order to clarify its relation to the subject catalog. It is imperative to point out that, for the purposes of this catalog in German libraries, any book that is the work of several (usually four or more) authors or is issued by an official body, a society, etc., is treated as an anonymous publication and is entered only under its title, not under the name of the issuing body, society, etc. The arrangement of these titles, which often occur together in groups of several hundred (e.g., *Berichte, Mitteilungen*, etc.), is alphabetical, but grammatical rules rather than position determine the order in which the words of the title are alphabetized.⁷ It follows, then, that the user who knows the name of the body or society responsible for a particular book but does not remember its exact title will not be able to find it in the author and title catalog and will have to refer to the subject catalog. Neither can he find a book by a single author in this author and title catalog unless he knows the author's name, since "added title entries" which are made so freely in American library catalogs would be found only in a special "*Stichwortkatalog*," and only one of the libraries under consideration, that of the German Reichstag, maintains such a

⁵ *Op. cit.*, pp. 179 ff.

⁶ See *Katalog des Reichspatentamts*, Band II: *Autoren- und Schlagwortregister in einem Alphabet* (Berlin, 1923).

⁷ Further details are to be found in the *Instruktionen für die alphabetischen Kataloge der preussischen Bibliotheken*, which are now in force in practically all German libraries. There is now an English translation by Andrew D. Osborn (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 1938). Cf. also J. C. M. Hanson, *A comparative study of cataloging rules* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1939), pp. 92 ff.

catalog. Better known, however, is the *Stich- und Schlagwortregister* of the *Deutsches Bücherverzeichnis*, which makes entries under all the important words ("Stichworte") of the title and, when necessary, also under a subject heading ("Schlagwort") determined by the contents of the book.

Subject catalogs in German libraries are of two basic and distinct types:

(1) The alphabetical subject catalog ("*Schlagwortkatalog*," abbreviated *SWK*), with entries that correspond to the subject and form entries of the dictionary catalog. Unfortunately, there is no accurate designation for it in English, and it may be best simply to use the descriptive phrase, "alphabetical subject catalog."⁸ Its distinction from the "*Stichwortkatalog*" mentioned above is seen in the case of a book like Nansen, *Farthest north*, where the title does not clearly indicate the contents. In an alphabetical subject catalog this would appear only under "Arctic regions" or some other appropriate subject heading.

This type of catalog has never had very extensive use in Germany, although since the last World War several libraries have adopted the alphabetical subject catalog—in most cases, for the specific purpose of replacing an old and outmoded systematic catalog, which is then used as a shelf list. In other libraries that have adopted this catalog, especially in South Germany and Austria where the books are shelved in large subject groups or in order of accession, a separate shelf list is provided.

(2) The classified subject catalog ("*Systematischer Katalog*," abbreviated *SyK*), for which there is likewise as yet no satisfactory English designation. Miss Margaret Mann⁹ uses the term "classified catalog" rather loosely, it seems, to include not only the "subject file, or the classified catalog proper," and its alphabetical index,¹⁰ but also an "author and title file"

⁸ J. C. M. Hanson, "A novel departure in the formation of a systematic catalogue," *Library quarterly*, III (1933), 424.

⁹ *Introduction to the cataloging and classification of books* (Chicago: American Library Association, 1930), pp. 231 ff.

¹⁰ This "alphabetical subject index to the subject file" (*ibid.*, p. 232), is also recognized in Germany as an essential supplement to the systematic catalog ("*Alphabetisches Register*" or "*Schlagwortregister*").

which she considers "an integral part of the classified catalog." This latter is, however, simply the "alphabetical author and title catalog" of the German libraries, although from Miss Mann's point of view it would probably contain added title entries. In the Appendix to his book, Mr. Henry A. Sharp¹¹ defines the term "classified catalog" as "a catalogue arranged in classified order of subjects, whether logically, or alphabetically in the manner of the alphabetico-classed catalogue," though in the text itself he seems to limit it to the first of these and treats the "alphabetico-classed catalogue" as a distinct type. According to Mr. W. C. Berwick Sayers' definition,¹² however, the term "classified catalog" would correspond to the German "*Systematischer Katalog*."

The designation by which this type of catalog is commonly known among American librarians, even though it does not often appear in print, is "classed catalog." Classed catalogs are now very rare in the United States, although remnants of them do still appear. Currently they are maintained by the Engineering Societies Library in New York, the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh,¹³ and the John Crerar Library, Chicago.

In view of this variation and confusion in terminology it would undoubtedly be preferable to use the expression "systematic catalog," which has the added advantage of being the exact cognate of the German term. In fact, Sharp and, likewise, Hanson do sometimes use it in this meaning.

With this brief digression on the terminology of the systematic catalog we pass on to consider one of the basic problems of this catalog:¹⁴ its relation to the arrangement of the books on the shelves. The German view is definitely that the arrange-

¹¹ *Cataloguing* (2d ed.; London: Grafton & Co., 1937), pp. 34, 39, 458.

¹² *Manual of classification* (London: Grafton & Co., 1926), p. 254.

¹³ See *Classified catalogue of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh* (8 vols.; Pittsburgh, 1907-14).

¹⁴ We shall deal here only with the systematic subject catalog. The development of the alphabetical subject catalog in Germany has been ably treated by J. Ansteinsson, "Subject catalog in Germanic countries," *Catalogers' and classifiers' yearbook*, No. 3 (Chicago: American Library Association, 1932), pp. 48 ff.

ment of the catalog is the primary factor to which the arrangement of the books on the shelves must then be adapted, in so far as the library in question provides for classified or systematic shelving ("*Systematische Aufstellung*").¹⁵ That the American view is the opposite of this is indicated by a statement like that of Miss Mann,¹⁶ that a systematic catalog is "an elaboration of the shelf-list." The shelf list ("*Standortskatalog*")¹⁷ is an entirely separate catalog or, more properly, "list" in German libraries except, of course, where the shelving follows the systematic catalog exactly, as it still does in many German libraries. But it is always the systematic catalog that governs the shelf arrangement, and any revision or change in classification is made first in the catalog and then, if necessary, carried over to the books themselves.¹⁸

This fundamental difference in the conception of the aim and purpose of classification itself—in Germany the arrangement of the entries in the catalog, in America the arrangement of the books on the shelves—may perhaps have its real basis in the different attitudes taken toward the admission of users into the stacks. In Germany stack access is granted only at the libraries of universities and other educational institutions, and even there only to the immediate faculty. However, their use of the privilege decreases from year to year as the size of the book collection increases and other considerations, of which American librarians will also be aware, make stack access of less and less practical value to the user. The trend in Germany is consequently toward the abolition of systematic shelving in favor of arbitrary shelving by size and order of accession.

Here again we must permit ourselves a digression on terminology in order to point out how this difference in the approach

¹⁵ Cf. Otto Hartwig's statement that "the books [in the University Library at Halle] are shelved according to this new [systematic] catalog" (*Schema des Realkatalogs der Königlicher Universitäts Bibliothek Halle a.S.* [Leipzig, 1888], p. 11).

¹⁶ *Op. cit.*, p. 231.

¹⁷ Also called "*Standortliste*" or "*Standortverzeichnis*."

¹⁸ The task of making a general revision or change in classification is usually expedited by withdrawing the systematic catalog from public use and even closing the library entirely for a brief period.

of American and German librarians to classification and subject cataloging has found expression in their respective languages. English makes a clear distinction between cataloging and classification, while in German both are covered by the term "*Katalogwesen*." In the *Internationale Bibliographie des Buch- und Bibliothekswesens*,¹⁹ for instance, the recent literature on classification is brought together under the heading "*Systematischer Katalog*," which is a subhead under "*Katalogwesen*." As an example of the opposite approach we might take Cannon's *Bibliography of library economy*, where we find a special main heading "Classification," under which, for instance, Hartwig's *Katalogsystem* is entered, while the "Classified catalog" appears as a subhead under "Cataloging and indexing."

The recognition of this distinction does not, of course, mean that we must in every case ascribe definitive significance to it. In questions involving only the theory of classification it does not as a rule²⁰ matter whether we mean classification for the books on the shelves or for the entries in the catalog. It should also in general be possible to apply a classification scheme that has been developed primarily for the systematic catalog to the shelf arrangement of the books themselves in the stacks. We mention this point in particular because the classification schemes that we shall consider in the following are all intended for the independent²¹ ("*standortfreie*") systematic catalog, which is not to be wondered at in view of the current attitude toward shelf arrangement in Germany. Even in the case of those schemes that involve a special notation ("*Bezeichnung*"), the transfer from the catalog to the shelves will be equally feasible. However, reference will be made to this point in the discussion of each scheme, both those with and those without a system of notation.

Before taking up the individual systematic catalog schemes

¹⁹ Hrg. von J. Vorstius und G. Reincke, Jg. 13 (Leipzig, 1939).

²⁰ There are, of course, special cases where the ultimate practical application must be taken into account in the theoretical discussion.

²¹ By "independent" is meant "not dependent for its arrangement upon the order of the books on the shelf, like the shelf-list."

themselves, it will be helpful to list and comment on the various types of subject catalogs that are in use in German libraries (Table 1).²² The variations are numerous, owing, among other things, to the influence of historical, political, and geographical factors on the development of German libraries, but they can be referred to four basic types.

The first of these represents the original type to which about forty (mainly university and high-school libraries) of the sixty-two research libraries that we are here considering once belonged. In the course of time, however, more and more libraries (at present about twenty) have gone over to Type II or III,

TABLE 1

Type	No. of Libraries	Type of Subject Catalog	Type of Shelving	Separate Shelf List?
I.....	20	Systematic	Systematic	No
II.....	12	Systematic	Accession order	Yes
III.....	20	Systematic and alphabetical	(a) Systematic	No
			(b) Accession order	Yes
IV.....	10	Alphabetical	Accession order	Yes

as their systematic catalogs, which often dated from the beginning of the preceding century or even from the end of the eighteenth century, became outmoded. As will be seen from Table 1, these libraries either have (a) discarded these outmoded catalogs and the stack arrangement that followed them and started new systematic catalogs independent of the shelving (Type II) or (b) kept the old catalogs (using them mainly as shelf lists) and alongside of them set up alphabetical subject catalogs (Type III).

In addition to those originally of Type I, Type II also includes many national, state, and municipal libraries whose stacks have never been open to the public and consequently have never had a systematic shelf arrangement. Of the libraries belonging to Type III, about half were originally of Type I (cf. above);

²² Table 1 is based on the work by Hans Trebst mentioned above. Of the 82 libraries that he has dealt with there, 62 have been selected as the basis for this presentation.

the remainder are, for the most part, libraries located in South Germany and Austria. Finally, Type IV, the smallest of our groups, consists mainly of libraries that have had alphabetical subject catalogs for a longer period of time; these are also located in South Germany.

In this survey we have taken no account of the substitute often used in Germany for systematic shelving, namely, "*Gruppenaufstellung*," in which the books are arranged in large subject groups, varying between twenty and three hundred in number, and then in order of accession within each group. The eighteen libraries with this type of shelving are here grouped with those that use simple accession-order shelving.

STADTBIBLIOTHEK MAINZ

Taken in chronological order the first of the several subject-cataloging systems or schemes that we shall discuss is that of the Municipal Library of Mainz.²³ It was developed during the period from 1919 to 1929 and is based on the requirements of a medium-sized scholarly library that must also serve as a popular library. The function of such a library would be approximately similar to that of an American public library in a city of comparable size, with allowance made for the fact that the German library has closed stacks while the American would presumably have open access.

The Mainz system (as we shall call it) starts by listing in alphabetical order the larger fields of knowledge—e.g., geography, medicine, philology, etc. (about twenty-five in all)—and designating them by abbreviations (German: *geogr.*, *med.*, *sprach.*, etc.). It is thus possible to insert new headings as the need may later arise, which cannot always be done when using a fixed notation of letters and numbers. Within these main divisions there are subdivisions designated by *A*, *B*, *C*, etc., and

²³ Bibliography: A. Ruppel, *Die Mainzer Stadtbibliothek in der Nachkriegszeit* (Mainz, 1927), pp. 13 ff. (reprint from *Monatsblätter der Mainzer Stadtbibliothek* [1927], pp. 102 ff.); H. W. Eppelsheimer, "Der neue Sachkatalog der Mainzer Stadtbibliothek," *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, Jg. 46 (1929), pp. 406 ff.; C. Nissen, "Der mainzer Sachkatalog in Theorie und Praxis," *Beiträge zur Sachkatalogisierung*, hrsg. von S. Runge (Leipzig, 1937), pp. 87 ff.

within these again there are subdivisions of the third degree designated by the even hundreds. E.g.:

geogr (= Geography)	(1st degree)
C Physical geography	(2d degree)
400 Orology, Orography	(3d degree)
500 Climatology	

This ends the subdivision by subject, for these hundred groups are not (as in the Dewey system) again subdivided by subject. For example, geogr C 510 would not mean, say, atmospheric currents, winds, etc., like Dewey's 551.51/58. Instead, a special schedule of recurrent subdivisions or "key" ("*Schlüssel*")²⁴ is used, covering the common subdivisions of generality, form, and time,²⁵ numbered from 01 to 99.²⁶ Thus, for instance, 10 means "Methods of the science in question," and, specifically, geogr C 510 means "Methods of climatology." The key of the Mainz system is in outline as follows:

- 1-12 Auxiliary works (bibliographies, dictionaries, periodicals, etc.)
- 13-23 Societies, official bodies, institutes, museums
- 24-27 History of the subject, biographies
- 28-30 Collected works
- 32-40 Sources (literary remains, atlases, etc.)
- 42-62 History (divided by period)
- 63-72 Methodology, theory (textbooks, commentaries, etc.)
- 73-78 Descriptive methodology of specific periods and countries (for example, in law)

²⁴ Another note on terminology must be permitted here. There has been extreme variation in the designations applied to these special schedules of recurrent subdivisions. In English we have tables, schemes, or schedules of subdivisions, auxiliary classes (Brussels), systematic schedules (Bliss), common subdivisions, and all conceivable combinations of these expressions. In German the Brussels DC has "*Allgemeine Anhängszahlen*" (barged numbers) or "*Hilfstafeln*" (auxiliary tables). In place of these I have introduced (in my article "*Die Vereinheitlichung der Allgemeingruppen im systematischen Katalog*," *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, LI [1934], 57 ff. and 146 ff.) the expression "*Allgemeingruppen*," which is a rather literal translation of "common subdivisions" and would be applicable to all systems. For the Mainz system Eppelsheimer uses the term "*Schlüssel*" ("key"), which I would also recommend for other systems that have a fixed notation for their common subdivisions. On the other hand, for systems without a notation (such as that of Trebst or the Dresden system) the term "schedule" seems more fitting.

²⁵ Sayers, *op. cit.*, pp. 149-50.

²⁶ Such groups occur also in the Library of Congress system; e.g., the "Table of subject subdivisions under states in JK 2700-9599" (Vol. J [2d ed., 1924], pp. 121 ff.).

- 79-82 Statistics
 83-86 Regulations, decisions, professional opinions
 87-88 Techniques, apparatus
 89-99 Monographs (each group alphabetically by subject headings)

It is on this point that the Mainz system and the Decimal Classification approach one another rather closely, for this key of the former represents an elaboration and improvement of Dewey's form divisions. This is, in fact, the first instance of a German classification system making use of Dewey's ingenious idea of applying the same schedule of subdivision to each of the larger subject divisions.

The threefold series of subject subdivisions of the Mainz system is now extended still further in the last section (89-99) of the key, so that we have in all five degrees of subdivision:

geogr C 400 Orology	(1st-3d degrees)
491 Individual types of mountains	(4th degree)
Chains	(5th degree)
Masses	(5th degree)

etc., in alphabetical order. Here the process of subdivision ends; it cannot be indefinitely continued (as there is often a tendency to do in the case of Dewey's decimal subdivision). Instead, we find the smaller subject concepts, representing definitely limited fields, grouped together in simple alphabetical sequence rather than in some other purely arbitrary order.

By the side of this general subject catalog the Stadtbibliothek Mainz has a separate geographical catalog, which brings together all the material relating to a particular country.²⁷ For instance, "Prison system in France" would be entered in the place corresponding to DC 365.9 in the main catalog and would also appear in the geographical catalog under "France." Approximately one-third of all titles are entered in both catalogs. Besides these, however, the geographical catalog also contains a great many titles that do not appear in the main subject catalog, namely, all material of a purely historical or geographi-

²⁷ Reference should be made here to a very similar device that has been worked out by the Swiss Landesbibliothek in Bern in its alphabetical "place catalog." It is available in printed form for the period 1900-30: "*Systematisches Verzeichnis der schweizer . . . Veröffentlichungen . . .*" (Bern, 1927 and 1931 ff.).

cal nature, unless it has theoretical or other significance. So, for instance, the groups corresponding to DC 914/19 and 930/99 would not appear in the main subject catalog at Mainz, but only in the geographical catalog. Subdivision under each country is, of course, carried out in accordance with a uniform scheme which follows that of the main catalog as closely as possible.

The adoption of the Mainz system by American libraries should involve no difficulties whatsoever. The notation is specific throughout and well suited for systematic shelving (even though not so intended at Mainz). For the fifth (the alphabetical) degree of subdivision, Cutter numbers could be used, unless it would seem best not to use them at all for stack shelving. On the other hand, the geographical catalog would be superfluous as long as place relations continued to be brought out by a dictionary catalog, even though a separate catalog by countries, uniformly subdivided, is unquestionably a great convenience. More might be said about the unusual adaptability of the Mainz system, even for large libraries of quite different type, but it will suffice here to refer to the examples given by Eppelsheimer and Nissen.²⁸

THE ANALYTICAL SUBJECT CATALOGING OF HANS TREBST

In its broad outlines this system was already in existence at the time the Mainz system was made public. It represents a systematically developed scheme along the same lines as the Brussels Decimal Classification, although Trebst maintains that his result, while quite similar, was reached independently and on the basis of his own experience. This result, "subject title analysis" ("*Sachtitelanalyse*"), which he has carried out with such consistency, means that each title to be entered in the subject catalog is first broken up into certain component subject elements or "concepts" that define the "subject" itself; namely, the "scientific form concept" ("*Wissenschaftsform*"), the "time or period concept" ("*Zeitbindung*"), the "regional concept" ("*Raumbindung*"), and finally the "literary form"

²⁸ Eppelsheimer, *op. cit.*, pp. 406 ff.; Nissen, *op. cit.*, pp. 87 ff.

("Literaturform").²⁹ The subject catalog is then arranged in corresponding fashion by listing first the subjects themselves and then subdividing each of the lowest order of subject divisions in accordance with the four "concepts" mentioned above.

This last step is carried out in accordance with a fixed method of procedure. Subdivision under a particular subject is first by scientific forms, then under these by periods, under periods by countries, and finally under countries by literary form. For instance, in the case of a title like "Studies in the history of Italian Renaissance painting" the order of subdivision would be "painting," "history," "Renaissance," "Italy," "studies." A different order might well be conceived for individual subject fields (for instance, in law it seems that the bringing-together of titles by regions would be more useful than by periods), but Trebst attaches particular importance to consistency in the order and manner of carrying out these subdivisions throughout the entire catalog.³⁰

In the case of each of these four concepts Trebst has worked out a special scheme ("*Generalkonspekt*") that fixes the order of the individual scientific forms, countries, etc., similar to the Brussels tables, though without numerical or other designations. In the catalog they are represented by guide cards of different colors—blue for the subjects themselves, red for scientific forms, etc. The tabs on the guide cards are of different widths and in varying positions across the top of the card, in such a manner that the same form or place heading under any subject always appears on the same-sized tab in the same position. Thus the place heading "Italy" always appears on a white tab one-sixth of the total width of the card and in the third position from the left. With such an arrangement it is possible to locate material dealing with a particular country without a special geographical catalog and without having to look through every

²⁹ The translation of these terms follows J. C. M. Hanson, *Library quarterly*, III (1933), 425.

³⁰ The Brussels DC has a similar general "sequence," to be used "unless otherwise ordained in the tables, or changed for some particular purpose" (English ed., I, Fasc. 1 [1936], 5).

card under the subject. For example, if someone wishes information about Italian painting, he need consult under "painting" only the cards that are placed behind the guide card with a white tab in the third position marked "Italy."

The second characteristic feature of Trebst's system is, unlike his "subject title analysis," something entirely new and has not, as far as I know, been treated in English or American library literature.³¹ It represents a deliberate departure from the traditional systematic catalog, or "catalog of the sciences," which arranges the titles in accordance with their relation to the various "faculties" or academic departments ("*Fakultätenzu- teilung*"). Instead, Trebst's idea was to bring together all titles on one subject or about one thing irrespective of the faculty or science to which they belong ("*Sachzuteilung*"). In such a catalog of specific subjects the total literature on marriage, for instance, would be brought together in one place, while in the Decimal Classification it is scattered in no less than nine widely separated places (customs, insurance, ethics, law, sacraments, statistics, etc.). Now it is, of course, very difficult to visualize such a catalog and to know where, for instance, our subject "marriage" would be placed, since it, like other similar concepts, is claimed by several faculties. The decision, as Trebst writes,³² depends on "what the primary function of marriage is"; formerly it would have come under ethics, now it belongs more likely under sociology.

In this manner each individual subject collects about itself an extensive literature, which has to be divided by faculties. Hence it was that Trebst added one more to the ordinary common subdivisions (time, place, and literary form), namely, scientific form, and made its application consistent throughout the scheme. Both the idea of this form division itself and the special scheme he worked out for it are peculiar to his system. In

³¹ On the other hand, the small but very active library association in Holland has considered it in detail. See A. Korevaar, "Die Theorie der bibliografische Systematiek," *Bibliotheekleven*, XVII (1932), 210 ff.; also XVIII (1933), 10 ff., 86 ff., 215 ff.

³² *Op. cit.*, p. 32.

the list of scientific forms we find in addition to those mentioned above (customs, insurance, etc.), a whole series of others like "public concern with the subject" (which includes libraries, expositions, societies, congresses, etc.), "instruction in and study of the subject" (art, for instance), "the subject as a profession" (like law), "theory and philosophy of the subject," "legislation and legal decisions," "history," etc.³³

The following example³⁴ will illustrate the subdivision of a subject by scientific form, period, region, and literary form:

The State (subject: blue, full width)

Political science (scientific form: red, $\frac{1}{2}$ width)

Political philosophy (red, $\frac{1}{2}$ width)

Political philosophy in the eighteenth century (period: gray, $\frac{1}{2}$ width)

Political philosophy in Germany in the eighteenth century (region: white, $\frac{1}{2}$ width)

Political philosophy in France in the eighteenth century (white, $\frac{1}{2}$ width)

Political philosophy in the nineteenth century (gray, $\frac{1}{2}$ width)

Political philosophy in Germany in the nineteenth century (white, $\frac{1}{2}$ width)

Public law (red, $\frac{1}{2}$ width)

Public law in the twentieth century (gray, $\frac{1}{2}$ width)

Public law in Germany in the twentieth century (white, $\frac{1}{2}$ width)

Public law in Baden in the twentieth century (white, $\frac{1}{2}$ width)

Public law in Baden in the twentieth century—Periodicals (literary form: yellow, $\frac{1}{2}$ width)

Public law in Baden in the twentieth century—Bibliography (yellow, $\frac{1}{2}$ width)

History of the state (red, $\frac{1}{2}$ width)

The same method of subdivision is also applied to subjects of lower order—even to the very minor ones (but only in the catalog, it must be remembered, not in the outline of the system). Another example will illustrate this:

Finance (blue, full width)

History of finance (red, $\frac{1}{2}$ width; further subdivision as in example above)

Finance legislation (red, $\frac{1}{2}$ width)

³³ *Ibid.*, pp. 44 ff.

³⁴ After each heading in the example the color and width of the guide-card tab are given in parentheses.

- Public revenue* in general (blue, $\frac{1}{2}$ width)
- History of public revenue (red, $\frac{1}{2}$ width)
- Taxation (blue, $\frac{1}{2}$ width)
- History of taxation (red, $\frac{1}{2}$ width)
- Taxation in the nineteenth century (gray, $\frac{1}{2}$ width)
- Taxation in Germany in the nineteenth century (white, $\frac{1}{2}$ width)
- Tax legislation (red, $\frac{1}{2}$ width)
- Excise taxes (blue, $\frac{1}{2}$ width)³⁵
- History of excise tax (red, $\frac{1}{2}$ width)
- Excise tax legislation (red, $\frac{1}{2}$ width)
- Customs
- Public Expenditures*

In his detailed exposition Trebst also takes up the case of compound subjects (like library architecture, book illustrations, etc.) and the question of distinguishing the subject itself from the scientific form. This point will be passed over here since the basic rule that follows from his exposition—that a compound is to be found in the catalog under its first element—is intended to apply to German compounds and would in general not be valid in English.

The third characteristic feature of Trebst's system is of a purely negative sort: the absence of any kind of notation, which, according to Trebst, "would constitute nothing less than a *crimen laesae maiestatis* against the course of development of the sciences."³⁶ The way must always be left open not only to insert new subjects and concepts anywhere in the catalog but also to rearrange at will the entries already made. Analytical subject cataloging is intended for a catalog whose order is entirely independent of the order of the books on the shelves, and the proper arrangement of the catalog entries can be effected by underlining on each card the subject concepts that are to determine the order of filing. It goes without saying that the call number of the book, which merely fixes its location in the

³⁵ Special types of taxes are placed under the headings to which they apply; i.e., "Insurance taxes" under "Insurance" (general heading: Political economy). A "History of insurance taxation in the U.S.," for instance, would belong there.

³⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 26.

stacks, will appear on each card in the subject catalog, so that the user will not, as Hanson seems to think,³⁷ have to refer back to the author catalog for it. In the alphabetical index to the subject catalog, which German librarians also consider an essential part of the subject catalog, reference is then made not to a class number but to a subject concept of the next highest order; for instance, "Taxes see Economics—Public finance."

It seems difficult to agree with Hanson when he says that analytical subject cataloging can have no application in American libraries on account of the absence of a notation. Even if the system were to be used for shelving, it would be necessary only to number the complete list of subjects consecutively, leaving free numbers for later insertions, and thus arrive at call numbers of maximum simplicity. However, the one thing that sets Trebst's system apart from all other modern subject-cataloging systems is the peculiar manner in which it is built up. In this he has made a complete break with past methods³⁸ and his work will perhaps in later years be looked upon as the turning-point in the history of subject cataloging. Unfortunately, it is not possible within the limits of this article to discuss Trebst's contribution in more detail, but to anyone who is concerned with the basic problem of subject cataloging, a thorough study of Trebst's book (and the extensive comment of the Dutch librarian mentioned above³⁹) cannot be too strongly recommended.

THE DRESDEN SYSTEM

The subject-cataloging system of the Sächsische Landesbibliothek,⁴⁰ one of the largest state and province libraries in Germany (excluding Munich and Berlin), stands in direct contrast to both the Decimal Classification and Trebst's system. At the same time, however, it shows an unmistakable affinity with the

³⁷ Hanson, *Library quarterly*, III (1933), 426, n. 3.

³⁸ The relation between Trebst's system and Brown's Categorical tables needs some further investigation (cf. Brown's example "rose").

³⁹ See n. 31.

⁴⁰ Bruno Faass, "Die neuen Fachkataloge der Sächsische Landesbibliothek," *Beiträge zur Sachkatalogisierung*, hrsg. von Sigismund Runge (Leipzig, 1937), pp. 63 ff.

forerunners of both of these, and likewise also with the Mainz system. By far the most striking feature of the Dresden system is the number of main divisions, for there are no less than six hundred of these, arranged in rather free but logical order and numbered consecutively. For instance, the history group comprises one hundred and ten divisions, beginning with the auxiliary sciences (301/12), followed by science of history in general and philosophy of history (313/14), world-history, including the World War (315/25), history of the ancient world (326/29), and finally the history of individual countries, with several numbers assigned to each of the more important ones. The other sciences are arranged in similar fashion: theology comprises forty divisions, law, fifty-five, etc. An alphabetical index directs the user to the proper division.

Each division throughout the scheme is regularly divided into two sections—"Generalities" and "Particulars"—which are set off by red guide cards. The group "Generalities" is then subdivided further in accordance with a uniform schedule of subdivisions that comprises fifteen headings. This schedule corresponds somewhat to the form divisions of the Decimal Classification, although it has taken over a number of noteworthy improvements from the Mainz key and from Trebst's schedule. Some of the headings are: (1) Bibliographies, Catalogs; (7) Atlases, Illustrated works, Formularies, etc.; (9) Statistics; (10) Societies, Institutes, Congresses, etc.; and (15) Biographies. The beginning of each of these individual headings is indicated by a blue guide card. This table of subdivision is not restricted in its application to the six hundred main divisions mentioned above, but may also, if needed, be used for the various subdivisions of the main divisions.

In the section "Particulars" we have the detailed subject subdivision of a particular main division. Wherever possible the Dresden system makes use of parallel schemes of subdivision; the subdivision schedule for literature headings, for instance, corresponds somewhat to the method used in the Decimal Classification 81/86 and the schedule for philology headings to DC 42/48. The subdivision schedule for history headings, however, consists only of general rules, and the fourth and final

schedule, for geographical headings, is simply a list of the more important countries.

A number of additional rules concern themselves with the interesting question of how far subdivision is to be carried out within each of the six hundred main divisions in the Dresden system. According to these rules, no division is to be subdivided until it comprises at least fifty entries or cards. And when such subdivision is made, no individual subdivision or heading may contain less than ten cards. The cards that would fall under headings each with less than ten cards are grouped together instead under a common heading at the end of the section until there are enough of one kind to set up a separate heading. A special method for arranging the guide cards has been worked out so that different colors indicate the various points of view (subject, place, time, etc.—seven in all), and the width of the tabs plus other factors also have special meaning.

Apart from the numbering of the six hundred main divisions, as described above, the Dresden catalog dispenses with all further notation in order to attain the greatest possible elasticity. The same holds for the subdivisions schedules. In the geographical schedule, numbers and letters have been added solely for the purpose of facilitating reference from the index to the schedule and are not entered on the cards themselves. The order of filing of the cards in the catalog is indicated by underlining (or adding) the proper geographical name on the card. Similarly, the cards in other sections of the catalog are filed according to their subject designations and contain no added numbers or letters for this purpose.⁴¹

It seems to me that the Dresden system could readily be adapted to American conditions, since the structure of the system itself is relatively free and it is not encumbered with a fixed notation. Indeed, the similarity of its general tables and special schedules of subdivision to the corresponding features of the Decimal Classification would seem to make it the best suited to American libraries of all the systems discussed in this article.

⁴¹ On this point compare Trebat's system, above, p. 61.

THE PROPOSAL OF THE AUSSCHUSS
FÜR SACHKATALOGISIERUNG

In conference with the other members of the Committee on Subject Cataloging of the Association of German Librarians, the writer has worked out a method of notation and a general key (or schedule of subdivisions). The notation, as I explained before the meeting of the International Institute of Documentation in Brussels (1935),⁴² consists of a combination of letters and numbers, such as has long been used by many German and foreign libraries: capital letters for the main divisions and small letters for subheadings. For further subdivision whole numbers and decimals are employed, though, unlike the Brussels Decimal Classification, three figures are always written to the left of the decimal point, zeros being added when necessary (e.g., Hc 650 for Hc 65). Additional figures are then added as required to the right of the decimal point, and it is here that decimal subdivision really begins. This method of procedure is undoubtedly easier for the layman to understand than is the Brussels method.⁴³

The key for general relationships and literary forms is quite similar to both the Mainz key and the Dresden schedule. An innovation is the heading "Older writers," which, under chemistry, for instance, would include all the writings before Lavoisier, the founder of modern chemistry, since these would obviously not fit into a scheme intended for modern chemistry. The notation for the key is likewise made up of numbers, with a zero always inserted between the class number and the key number. The key itself contains two degrees of subdivision, e.g.:

- 30 Bibliographies
 - 31 Completed bibliographies
 - 32 Current bibliographies (bibliographical periodicals, etc.)
- 40 Periodicals and serials
 - 41 Periodicals in German

⁴² Reprinted in part in *Beiträge zur Sachkatalogisierung*, pp. 117 ff.

⁴³ The Schweizerische Landesbibliothek in Bern, which uses the Brussels DC, has adopted a similar procedure (cf. *Schweizer Sammler*, XII [1938], 199 ff.).

Thus the first degree is always designated by the even tens (10, 20, 30, etc.); the second degree is used only when the number of bibliographies or periodicals is large and further subdivision is desired. However, if only a few general works are present, subdivision by means of the key can be dispensed with entirely, and the single group of general works simply separated from the monographs or special works by a guide card.

The following example will illustrate the structure of the system itself and the relation of the key (the numbers from the latter are underlined):

MAIN SYSTEM	MAIN SYSTEM WITH KEY
H Economics	H <u>41</u> German periodicals on H (Economics)
Hc Political economy	Hc <u>42</u> English periodicals on Hc
Hc 600 Money, Banking, Exchange	Hc <u>604.3</u> French periodicals on Hc 600
Hc 650 Banks, Banking	Hc 650.3 Bibliographies of Banking
Hc 654 Individual types of banks	(Hc 564.03 lacking)
Hc 654.7 Savings banks	Hc 654.70 <u>42</u> English Savings bank periodicals

A geographical key, of course, also forms part of the system of the committee, using a notation of small letters. The use of this key, however, becomes superfluous in those sections where geographical subdivision is incorporated into the system itself and where the countries are themselves subdivided by subject, with or without a special key (e.g., law). The same would be true of the Dewey but not of the Brussels Decimal Classification.

THE "ADJUSTABLE SYSTEM"

This is not a new system but simply a practical device for modernizing an outmoded systematic catalog of the type that also serves as shelf list.⁴⁴ It is nothing more than a table of cor-

⁴⁴ Cf. my report on "Die Umarbeitung des systematischen Katalogs der Universitätsbibliothek Heidelberg," *Neue heidelberger Jahrbücher*, 1936, pp. 112 ff.; abstracted

respondences or a concordance between the old system and a new one that enables the user to employ the latter to the exclusion of the former. Let us suppose that a library classified according to the Decimal system wished to make it possible for scholars to approach the collection on the basis of H. E. Bliss's scheme instead of the Decimal. All that would have to be done would be to enter opposite each main head and each subheading or class of Bliss's scheme the corresponding Decimal class number. For instance, in Section A, Philosophy and General Science, this would be done as follows:

AA	History of philosophy. Ancient philosophy . . .	109,180/89
AA/AC	Medieval and modern philosophy	190/99
AF	Philosophy in general	100/08
AG	Systematic philosophy	14
AH	Metaphysics	11
AK	Science in general	50
AL	Logic	16
AM/AW	Mathematics	51
AX	Metrology	389
AY	Statistics	31
AZ	Physical science in general	—

The scholar who uses the new scheme need only take account of the added Decimal Classification numbers and then look up the indicated sections in the catalog or in the stacks without concerning himself with the old system as such, whether it be the Decimal or some other system.

In this way an up-to-date system can be presented to the user without any changes being made in either the old catalog or the shelf arrangement. However, it would scarcely be sufficient merely to present the headings of the old system in a new arrangement, but new headings should be freely inserted in their proper place. In older systems many headings are entirely lacking, or, as in the Brussels Decimal Classification, have been or would have to be crowded in where there is no space

in *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, LII (1935), 550 ff.; also "Ueber die Möglichkeit von Konkordanzen bibliothekarischer Systeme," *IID communicationes*, IV (1937), 17 ff.

for them.⁴⁵ A common index would hold the old and new systems together, but each system would, of course, have to have its own distinctive notation.

It will also be obvious that such a concordance or table of correspondences can be revised from time to time with very little effort or can even be replaced by an entirely new scheme if necessary. We have thus an elastic and adjustable system that can readily keep pace with the continued development of the sciences and the growth of the library's book collection. It seems that it should recommend itself particularly to American libraries since their policy of systematic shelving makes it difficult to adopt any radical changes in their classification systems.

We see from this account that German librarians have in the last ten years made many valuable contributions to the methodology of classification. However, the writer does not deceive himself that these contributions are in the last analysis more than means to an end; for the various schemes of subject analysis, subdivision, and notation merely form the framework on which a logical system of arranging the book collection or the catalog cards can be built up. The structure of the system itself has, in fact, only been considered by Trebst. The other German proposals, as well as many of the foreign ones (those of Bliss and Ranganathan, for instance) either do not concern themselves with it at all or are content to accept the general proposition that the arrangement of the system must follow the usual order of the individual sciences. But since there is, in the case of most sciences, no generally accepted order or only one that is subject to constant revision, no system, however carefully and cleverly constructed, can provide a permanent solution or even a solution that will be satisfactory for a longer period of time. The fact that, in spite of this, three classification systems are in such widespread use in the United States is undoubtedly due less to the finality of their arrangement of the sciences than

⁴⁵ Likewise, certain sections which experience has shown to be unnecessarily subdivided or expanded could be simplified. The same would hold for such sections as had become more or less "dead"; i.e., in which very few or no new books at all were being added.

to their purely practical features, which have but little to do with scientific classification at all. Such would be the notation, the "standardization of common subdivisions,"⁴⁶ and similar features connected with the external structure of the system that are improved from year to year in the light of previous experience—particularly so in the German systems discussed in this article.

Within these limits, then, it is my hope that the present account of recent German schemes will be helpful to American librarians in developing new systems in the future and that it may also serve to discharge the long-standing debt of gratitude that the writer does not hesitate to acknowledge for the intellectual heritage of Melvil Dewey and the other great American librarians who have dealt with classification.

⁴⁶ A comparative survey of the notations employed in the more important systems since 1800 (Brunet, Schleiermacher, Dewey, etc.) has been presented in my address at the 1933 meeting of the International Institute of Documentation in Brussels (Institut International de Documentation, XII^e Conférence, Bruxelles, 1933, *Rapports*, pp. 163 ff.). On the treatment of common subdivisions see my article cited above, n. 24.

THE ORGANIZATION AND WORK OF THE LENDING DEPARTMENT, THE NEWARK PUBLIC LIBRARY

CATHERINE VAN DYNE

SIZE AND SCOPE

AMONG the medium-sized and larger libraries of this country, Newark is a striking example of the nondepartmentalized type. Also, it is distinctive for its merging of reference work with the lending of books and for the absence of a highly organized reference department, withdrawn from general activity and exalting research on its own account. Aside from an art department, a business branch, and an education department, divisions do not exist. In a big main collection called the "lending department," the general resources of the library are centralized. To the seeker for information the advantages of such an organization are incalculable. He is not referred here for this and there for that. An inquirer brings his wants to the lending department, and there, with few exceptions, they are filled. The question may be answered from the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, a population volume of the United States Census, a street map of Minneapolis, a soil map of Kansas, the latest bulletin of "America's town meeting of the air," or an issue of *Harper's weekly* for the Civil War period. It may be that what is wanted is a study of devaluation versus deflation, the melting-point of vanadium, or a poem about "the glory that was Greece."

In the Dewey classes of literature, the department covers philosophy, religion, sociology, philology, natural science, useful arts, amusements, literature, history, travel, biography, and fiction. It includes, besides 22,000 reference books and 190,000 circulating books, supplementary sources of information as follows: 2,973 issues of 542 current periodicals; 44,000 volumes of

775 bound periodicals; 52,000 back numbers of 1,308 periodicals, unbound; 1,419 volumes of bound newspapers; 6,100 U.S. patents and specifications; 50,000 U.S. government publications; 20,000 New Jersey, Essex County, and Newark publications; 42,000 pamphlets, classified but uncataloged; 45,000 clippings, broadsides, etc.; and 20,000 maps. Physically, the department covers about 41,000 square feet: all the second floor and five adjacent stack levels, a small section of the third floor, and most of the fourth.

The immeasurable content of this material is a challenge to every worker and is so considered. No one can sit at an information desk without at least a superficial acquaintance with it. It is true that catalogs, bibliographies, and indexes are keys that unlock much of the information, but a real knowledge comes only with years of experience. The staff that uses it and cares for it numbers 35 assistants, divided for convenience as follows: administrative, 4; senior assistants, 17; junior assistants (shelf department), 14. This department staff is about the same size as the library staff in East Orange or Elizabeth.

The four administrative assistants are the department head, a first assistant—combining with her executive ability a knowledge of reference work, a junior clerical assistant to record, file, check, etc., and a junior assistant who is directly in charge of the fourteen shelf workers. Organization of the work and division of jobs are simple and effective.

INFORMATION SERVICE

The chief duty of the senior assistants is information service. According to the time of day and amount of activity, they man from six to nine desks. Desks are stationed as follows:

- One at department entrance, for general inquiry and direction
- One at card catalog, expressly for aid in finding book numbers and specific books
- Three near reference collection, for help with questions requiring the use of reference tools
- One out of readers' earshot, for outside telephone inquiries
- One in Newspaper and Patent Room on fourth floor
- Two in fiction corridor, for fiction requests

Assistants working at information desks within the lending department proper may be scheduled at any one of the six general desks, entrance, catalog, or reference. The desk schedules made out for morning, lunch, afternoon, supper, and evening periods, with a rotation of desk assignments among assistants suited to their ability and experience. The single exception to this plan is the telephone desk, requiring a particular resourcefulness and expertness with tools. When more information assistants than desk schedules require are available, some assistants are "free." This means that they are not responsible for desk service and are free to work on any special job that has been assigned. Free periods, usually three hours, vary in number from one to five a week according to number of staff, caliber of staff, and circumstances of work. To equalize free time and desk time among members of the staff with various assignments requires the wisdom of Solomon and the patience of Job. It is the work of the first assistant and is subject to change on many counts. Illness, of course, plays havoc with such a setup.

With a normal appropriation the department is open from 9:00 A.M. to 9:30 P.M. Monday through Saturday, a total of seventy-five hours. All assistants work a forty-hour week, or a seven-and-one-half-hour day with one half-day holiday. A few have day schedules (9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.). The majority alternate with day and evening (1:00 P.M. to 9:30 P.M.) schedules, working one, two, or three evenings a week according to schedule requirements and personal preference. The size of the staff in the morning and evening allows for little free time. It is for the short period 2:30 P.M. to 5:00 P.M., when schedules overlap, that a full staff covers desks and engages in free-time pursuits.

ASSIGNMENT OF SPECIAL JOBS

Free-time pursuits are the special jobs done behind the scenes. On them efficient desk service hinges, and every assistant takes a hand in them. The assignments, like desk schedules, are interchangeable and rotating. Even more than with desk schedules, job assignments depend on the experience, competency, and

special qualifications of the assistant. To a certain extent they are graded—the newest and, frequently, the least experienced assistant drawing the simplest job—the more difficult, more independent work going to the thoroughly competent.

It is an understanding of the behind-the-scenes work in public departments of a library that makes the work come alive and interpret itself as something more than the handing of books across counters and the finding of them on the shelves, though there are still many people who continue to look upon the finding of one book among 190,000 as a kind of magic that in itself justifies the position of librarian.

THE REFERENCE COLLECTION

An assistant, familiar with library history and policies as well as with a knowledge of reference aids, is responsible for the upkeep of the reference collection. On open shelves in the lending department is a comparatively small lot of books—6,500. This, the reference collection, is constantly weeded of dead wood, replenished by additions, and always held down to an active, workable collection to which readers have free access and from which they help themselves. The care of the reference collection and the disposition of each new volume requires judgment and discrimination. The arrival of some new books means retirement for others to the fourth floor, where reference books are in reserve to the number of 22,000. This collection contains old editions of encyclopedias, superannuated yearbooks, old and interesting books of a reference nature—too valuable to discard but misleading and unsuitable on open shelves. Duplicates of about fifty handbooks and cyclopedic guides to the information that answers a big proportion of our questions are supplied and kept in a so-called "tool case" within reach of the three reference desks. Another seventy-five are shelved directly behind the telephone desk to facilitate immediate reply.

In addition, there is the "cage." In the cage, an adjunct to the open reference collection, are about 800 volumes that need special protection. A number of them, like Trautwine's *Civil engineers' handbook*, the Baedeker guides, chemical formulas, bib-

liographies of authors, dictionaries of foreign languages, and almanacs of motion pictures, no matter how popular, are too tempting for the open shelves. People do not help themselves to the books in the cage but sign for their use and return them to desks for cancellation of the loan.

The reference assistant must also decide which tools belong on the index cases along with the various indexes to periodical literature, to government documents, to book reviews, to legislative bills, and to special types of literature such as plays, poems, and essays. She must know which government documents should be duplicated for the reference collection. She will recommend additions for the high-school reference collection. Consulting with branch librarians, she may be asked to recommend useful tools for branch collections. She is not only the assistant in charge of reference books in the department, but she is also in a position to be reference consultant for the system.

THE NEW JERSEY COLLECTION

Not considered as a part of the general reference collection, the New Jersey material is fast becoming a distinguished part of department service. As a special collection it has been growing for about ten years and now holds a place of peculiar importance in the departmental setup. The two assistants who work together on New Jersey assignments could not be more interested in the development of the collection, the organization of its resources, the refinement of their service, and the expansion of the collection's use. In working with this material, the sense of satisfaction that comes from a close knowledge of a comparatively small collection repays the hard work of organization, and the unity of subject coupled with the diversity of material makes an added appeal. It is amazing what a mine of information the 1,325 books, the 20,000 documents, the clippings, the maps, and the pictures prove to be. Many of the clippings dating back to the early 1900's and accruing value meanwhile were remounted on rag paper by W.P.A. workers and are an interesting feature of the collection. A complete file of Newark directories, 1835 to date, is another New Jersey treasure. For some of the old

books on Newark, indexes have been made. W.P.A. workers, under the guidance of New Jersey assistants and the catalog department, have completed a 32,000-card index to the illustrations in books on New Jersey. This is a rare piece of work and technically excellent.

LOCAL AND CURRENT INFORMATION

Local questions—perhaps even more than general inquiries—demand current information and demand it absolutely up to date. This use of libraries for information about things here and now has caused libraries to recognize sources other than bound books as indispensable. Among such sources are newspaper notices, advertising circulars, letterheads, letters, etc. Assigned to different staff members are four jobs dealing with this type of material and planning for its use. The jobs are known as manuals-to-date; Newark associations; Newark recreation; and civil service index. They are not difficult but require a respect for routine and an enthusiasm for its results.

Manuals-to-date.—When the telephone rings and a call comes for the personnel of the State Civil Service Commission, the name of James K. Allardice is immediately substituted for William S. Stiles, whose term expires 1940, according to a penciled correction in the *New Jersey legislative manual*. This correction has been made from a newspaper notice, routed to the manuals-to-date assistant. To be sure, the clipping could be found in the file under "New Jersey—Civil Service," but the right clipping among many might be hard to identify and the name difficult to find. The change on the *Legislative manual* page is clearly apparent, and the source is given so that further details may be verified. This is one of hundreds of changes to be found in the 1940 *Legislative manual*, interleaved for the purpose. Other manuals kept to date from newspaper notes are a *New Jersey directory of county and municipal officials*, a similar directory for Essex County, the *New York State legislative manual*, *New York City official directory*, the *United States congressional directory*, Patterson's *American educational directory*, and the *American Library Association directory*.

The *Newark commissioners' manual*, last published in 1930 and overflowing with changes, has long since been converted into a card file of Newark officials grouped by departments and patterned on the *Manual*. Changes are made on the cards.

Newark associations.—Dropped into the card catalog in its alphabetic place is a file of about 1,100 cards, not indexing books, but giving information about selected organizations in Newark. Clubs, societies, and associations in the city and the vicinity are entered with official names, addresses, and secretaries. The file has been built up over a number of years from lists in the *City directory* (alone quite inadequate for our needs), from association yearbooks, letters, and newspaper clippings. During 1939, 1,648 changes were noted, an indication of the attention that even a small undertaking requires. This is a joint piece of work between the lending department and the catalog department, which must approve all catalog records. The number of questions about associations is surprising and, because this file immediately tells the name of the director of the Cosmopolitan Players Club, the address of the American Youth Congress, New Jersey State Committee, or the secretary of the American Association of University Women, New Jersey Division, it becomes a source of definite satisfaction.

Newark recreation.—In the card catalog, too, is a list of recreational opportunities in Newark and the immediate vicinity numbering about two hundred entries. This guide gives skeleton information on outdoor fireplaces available for picnics and the agency issuing permits, on swimming pools and their hours, canoes for hire, moderate-priced golf links, on ski jumps, etc. This is a seasonal job requiring considerable correspondence and many telephone calls, for it cannot rely on printed sources.

Civil service index.—A steady use made of the department comes from those who are preparing for civil service examinations. Though the schedule of examinations changes from month to month, the stream of questions is constant. To attempt satisfactory service for the applicants requires an especially planned service. Since sample questions have not been issued for nine years, whatever help is given must be based on the examination

schedule and the skeleton of information which the announcement provides. When candidates receive their announcements in advance of receipt by the library, the first-comer for information may get the best references and go off with them. When the library receives the announcements, before candidates appear at desks, a list of what seem to be the most suitable references is made immediately, and the references themselves—books, reports, laws, etc.—are held until after examination date for the use of all interested. In the course of a year lists may be compiled for 150 examinations or more. In one month 103 questions have been asked about a fireman's examination and 90 for a patrolman's.

TWO GREAT AUXILIARIES

To keep up to date on subjects, general as well as local, the department has two great auxiliaries of information—the information file of 45,000 classified clippings, broadsides, etc., and the pamphlet library of 42,000 classified pamphlets. While it sometimes happens that these two aids answer questions independent of books, satisfactory answers for at least half of the questions depend upon their supplementary use. To consider, for example, a subject like national defense is to realize how much more adequately books plus newspaper clippings and pamphlets cover the subject than books alone. Pamphlets and clippings, both largely, though not necessarily, ephemeral, are collected, prepared for use, kept in order, and weeded for discard by a special corps of assistants in a working division called the pamphlet library. The pamphlet library's treatment of material and conduct of its work is unique in library annals and a contribution by John Cotton Dana to library science. It is a story in itself.

MAPS

Still another class of print which has been drafted for general information service is maps. One assistant is in charge and maps always become a favorite assignment. Frequently the initiate knows little about maps outside of atlases, but the consideration they demand on physical characteristics alone establishes a re-

spectful relationship. Maps must be handled, and handling begets interest. Then, too, maps are a job that the assistant sees through from start to finish. The lending department orders, checks bills, decides on filing locations, recommends catalog headings, arranges for mounting, dissecting, rolling, hanging, or whatever needs to be done to prepare the map for use. There are maps for reference use and maps for lending, street maps, soil maps, political maps, historical maps, physical maps, topographic maps, geodetic charts, geologic survey maps of the state and the United States, and survey sheets of the international maps of the world. A number of different treatments have been worked out for their storage and use, and proper decisions for the treatment of the 20,000 is a big part of the map job.

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

When an assistant feels at home with United States government publications or public documents, he is fit to enter the ranks of the experienced. Documents look technical and in many instances are as thoroughly technical as they look. They are full of figures and substance. The government-printed indexes on which Newark depends for a yield of their content are more formidable than a card catalog. The difficulties of the period before the printed indexes were available are not to be minimized. But a workable arrangement of the material and a thorough understanding of it go a long way toward the solution of the problem. An opportunity is given all information assistants to examine new documents on their arrival.

Newark's document procedure is simple, inexpensive, and effective. The 50,000 publications, accessible only to the staff, are filed by the issuing governmental department and arranged by bureau division, by series, and by bulletin number. They do not bear any identifying symbol to make shelving automatic and so must be refiled after use by an information assistant. Filing documents is a new assistant's introduction to them. The collection's upkeep and development is in the hands of an experienced assistant with a knowledge of reference sources and a methodical turn of mind. On an average, 350 new documents

are added each month, or 4,200 a year. Decisions diverting certain documents to the reference collection, ordering duplicates of others for lending, weeding superfluous copies, etc., fall to the documents assistant. So alive is the collection and so changing the demands upon it that a document assignment means a program of varied activity.

Six thousand volumes of the *United States Patent Office official gazette* and specifications and drawings are a valuable part of the document collection although separated from it and housed as a matter of convenience with the files of bound newspapers on the fourth floor. Its use is limited to those to whom fourth-floor passes have been issued at information desks in the lending department on the second floor. Newark's patent collection, including also English, Canadian, and New Zealand files, is the most complete in the state. A patent collection in part accounts for a library's omnipresent need for space, for the volumes of specifications and drawings received over a three-month period entirely fill a bookcase unit with eighteen running feet of shelf. The Newspaper and Patent Room, administered by a senior assistant, is open from 9:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. daily and is used daily by about ten people, many of them settling down to several hours of study and research.

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS

Supervision of the periodicals for the entire system, their orders, receipt, binding, and files was, until the past year, carried on by an information assistant as a lending-department assignment. Recently it has been allotted to a periodical assistant attached to the staff of the pamphlet library. Use of periodicals has increased a thousand fold, and periodicals have become a mainstay in research, owing to the excellent periodical indexes of the H. W. Wilson Company. A volume furnishing abundant proof of their importance everywhere is the H. W. Wilson publication, *Union list of serials*, a co-operative undertaking of 75,000 entries and 225 libraries, including Newark, to show which libraries have complete or incomplete files of periodicals.

Another Wilson publication, *Union list of newspapers*, to which Newark also contributed, shows Newark's newspaper holdings to be chiefly Newark and New Jersey. The *New York times* is the only other file kept, its value increased by the *New York times index* a marvel of indexing skill. Beginning with January, 1939, when it was first available, the microfilm edition of the *Times* replaced the rag-paper edition. A development that holds much interest for librarians of the future is the micro-filming of newspaper issues, preserving them for the future and preventing files from becoming so faded and fragile that repair and preservation otherwise is almost impossible. At present some three hundred volumes of New Jersey newspapers are being overhauled to see what can be done in anticipation of filming.

THE LENDING COLLECTION AND BOOK ORDERS

Reserved for final consideration in the list of assignments is the book collection itself, the 190,000 volumes which, over a period of fifty years, the Newark library has been accumulating for Newarkers. Of this number about 35,000 are in circulation—off the shelves and in Newark homes. The story of how books are ordered, added, borrowed, read, worn out, retired from open-shelf service or discarded to be replaced or discarded forever is, after all, the meat of a library story. A good book-buying policy, maintained consistently over a period of years and dating back to the first years, establishes a library's reputation and paves the way for good service. The lending department is fortunate in such a history. Its book collection, based on high standards of selection and the needs of the community, has become really remarkable. It does not exist without exacting and constant care. That care now is divided among the information assistants of the lending department, one assistant being responsible for sociology, another for literature, another for biography, etc. Intelligent care requires contact with readers and contact with the shelves. Lacks are made good by orders. Worn and dirty books are considered for replacement. Discard is carefully considered in relation to content of book, similar material on the

same subject, newer editions, number of duplicate copies, etc. When replacement is not possible because the book is out of print, the book is considered for a permanent reserve. It is taken from the shelves, marked for permanent reserve, and sent to storage, to be had only on definite request. This particular plan has been followed for about six years and has been invaluable not only as a means of preserving about 11,000 of the older, rarer, out-of-print books but in affording necessary room for growth in the open-shelf collection. Also sent to storage as a fluctuating collection are duplicate copies representing overstock, the bane of a librarian's existence, but almost a necessary evil if current demand for popular books is to be duly regarded. Just when the saturation point is reached is more or less of a conundrum. Take a book like DeKruif's *Microbe hunters*, published in 1926—58 copies for adult use have been added, and only 3 copies are on the shelf today. Of Anne Lindbergh's *North to the Orient*, published in 1935—88 copies for adult use were added, and 15 copies are on the shelf today. Whether in twelve years they will have subsided to a proper number as has the stock of *Microbe hunters* is a question. Both are exceedingly popular with the average reader, and both are on school reading lists, a factor to be taken into full account. A novel like Edna Ferber's *Show boat*, published in 1926, takes a new lease on life with a stage production, a movie, and a radio program extending its popularity. Of the 213 copies added, the majority are now worn out. Of the 137 copies of *Anthony Adverse* acquired since 1933, for five full years it was difficult to lay hands on a copy, but of how many best sellers would this be true?

Of the library's \$97,000 book fund in 1937, selected because it is a year's figure not conspicuously affected by depression adjustments, about one-third was expended for lending-department material: nonfiction, \$25,000; fiction, \$6,000; and periodicals, pamphlets, maps, etc., \$3,000. Orders for the vast majority of new books originate within the department. In all classes they are ordered by one assistant who checks the *Publishers' weekly*, scans reviews, examines book lists, etc. Every order is first approved by the department head. Orders for all

new titles and duplicates, except those marked "rush" for immediate or emergency need, are checked by the librarian, whose question marks on order slips have prevented the addition of many a mediocre title that never will be missed. In 1939 new titles and new editions published in the United States numbered 10,640. New additions to the lending department of new titles and editions published in this country and abroad numbered 3,493 for the year. Sociology led with 867 new titles. Technology and history were next in line, each under 500. Approval lots of new publications coming from dealers once a week not only allow for examination of the books but provide for the appearance of at least one copy of a book on the library shelf soon after its publication. Duplicate copies are added at once by assistants in charge of various classes, provided duplication seems advisable and the book budget allows. Upward of 100 titles annually are added at the request of readers who filled in recommendation slips, "The book you wish the library to buy." These readers are notified when the books are ready for lending, and the books are held for them. The taking of reserves for books, not in when wanted, is one way of taking the pulse of book lacks. At information desks in 1939 the number of reserves taken dropped to 2,440, owing in part to curtailed hours and a reserve ban on 1939 publications during the last quarter of the year. Progress in filling them is reported to the head of the department, who orders duplicates as advisable.

NEWARK AN INFORMATION HEADQUARTERS

Aside from the questions presented by those appearing at information desks, many inquiries come in over the telephone. Telephone service to individuals, organizations, and city departments is constantly increasing, with a daily average in 1939 of 55 calls. The mail during 1939 brought inquiries from 17 states, many from people in New Jersey looking upon Newark as information headquarters. As the largest public library in the state, Newark is also called upon to supply books, not available elsewhere, for the New Jersey Library Commission at Trenton. Newark lends about 2,600 books a year to the Commission and

to about 40 neighboring libraries on interlibrary loans. The Commission requests are not merely for book titles. "The training of children afflicted with the antetoid type of cerebral palsy" is one request that left an impression. Another, by telegram, was this: "Can you send for rush request poem called Voice of Silence by Thomas S Jones Jr *stop* first published in Harper's Bazaar Volume 44 Page 212 March 1910 *stop* do not find in any collection of poetry on our shelves *stop* request is for Governor Hoffmann *stop* thank you."

Interlibrary-loan policy—what can be lent and what must be held against Newark calls—is one of the many questions of procedure with which information assistants must be conversant. In addition to knowing the department's resources, this obligation is a serious responsibility, and new assistants are trained to recognize and refer questions with which their inexperience cannot deal. Other points that come up at desks are the reserving of books in demand and not available, occasional permission for the lending of reference books, inquiries for photostat service, requests for the substitution of money deposits for cards or interlibrary loans, arrangement for the accommodation of typewriters and stenographers, puzzle contestants' monopoly of dictionaries, etc., etc. The proper combination of tact and firmness comes only with an assistant's confidence in his ability to interpret the library as a public utility as well as a storehouse of print.

The foregoing description of the activities of the information staff is merely an outline. Some assignments have been slighted, some have been omitted. The detail which goes into procedures for the conduct of each job is hardly suggested. The work of the department head who assigns projects, discusses plans, approves them, recommends them to the librarian for official approval, who checks book orders, passes on all books removed permanently from open shelves, examines every book for discard, decides on all questions of policy that can be settled within the department, visés all department correspondence, and answers library correspondence delegated by the librarian—all of this chiefly administrative routine—is only implied.

SHELF WORK

Management of the shelf work carried on by fourteen junior assistants is deputed to a junior assistant in charge, but the department head and first assistant are familiar with all schedules and jobs. In an open-shelf system of this kind, two divisions of the staff come together at many points. Because desk service depends on shelf service, the shelf job thereby takes on an importance which calls for mental as well as physical alertness and for some understanding of library traditions and standards. Its proportions can best be judged on the basis of floor distances, size of collection, and extent of shelving.

The work of straightening, dusting, and arranging the material in the lending department is divided among fourteen juniors, young men working full-time library schedules as they put themselves through college. Individual assignments include responsibility for the order of a certain section of shelving, about 10,000 books, and a section of the unbound periodical shelves, including about 3,000 issues. Open-shelf collections are straightened daily and "read" (put in order by shelf number) once a week. During a week 101 trucks, 74 of nonfiction and 27 of fiction, are shelved, representing the replacement of about 17,000 books returned by borrowers or consulted in the department. Weekly the individual worker shelves about 7 trucks, or 1,100 books. Daily the entire staff is likely to return to the shelves about 3,000 volumes, the bulk of them returned from borrowers or left on tables by readers—others returned from the repair department or coming as new additions from the catalog room.

Shelf work with periodicals is heavy. Records show that about 240 back issues of periodicals are noted each day in the periodical indexes, brought from the files, and returned to the files. Daily periodical readers help themselves to scores of current issues, which must be replaced at frequent intervals by juniors. Bell calls from desk service are divided among all juniors, each being scheduled at definite periods of one or two hours to answer calls at the two bell stations which serve seven information desks. Calls are for books from the stacks, periodicals from the files, or errands about the building. Special jobs of

all kinds include the checking of book lists with call numbers from the card catalog, filing of maps, alphabetizing of slips, etc. The book truck and staff elevator running between stacks is operated in turn by several lending-department juniors. A lending-department junior also makes daily trips to storage, and, in general, a rotation of jobs is arranged which, in so far as possible, varies the routine.

The months of greatest public use are October, November, January, February, March, and April. As summer approaches, the work falls off, and as it passes, the work increases. The circulation of books, nonfiction and fiction, fluctuates from an August low of 27,000 to the March high of 50,000. While there is not the same numerical measure of questions answered as of books lent, one appears to be commensurate with the other. The vacation allowance of one month to every assistant during the period from June 1 to September 30 so reduces the staff that the seasonal slack presents no administrative problem except as it is difficult to spread a smaller staff in two shifts over day and evening schedules.

Regardless of season and circumstance, there is always work ahead in the lending department. Of library work generally this is one of the pleasures and compensations. A less active season need never be dull, for in times of reduced public use, constructive plans for improving the book collection and promoting its use crowd in upon an interested staff. In the Newark library, with its traditional regard for change and innovation, the lending department teems with challenging possibilities.

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS

GUY R. LYLE

OF THE several different types of college and university library publications, some are designed for students, some for administrative officials, faculty, and organized friends' groups, and some are not designed at all. There are annual reports which summarize the significant achievements of the year; handbooks which help new students in using the card catalog, periodical indexes, and various reference materials; book lists to record weekly, monthly, or quarterly accessions to the library; and book bulletins whose secondary function is the interpretation of library services and policies. There are still others to keep friends-of-the-library groups informed of progress and needs or to commemorate important anniversaries and exhibits.

The discussion of all these diverse publications is a theme for an article much longer than this. Moreover, handbooks, annual reports, and the journals of friends-of-the-library groups are familiar publications and have been the subject of numerous articles.¹ Here the purpose is the more limited one of describing the nature and contents of the book bulletins and book lists commonly issued by the larger college and university libraries.

BOOK BULLETINS

The type of printed library bulletin made familiar by Dartmouth's *Library bulletin*, Connecticut Wesleyan's *About books*, and Pennsylvania State's *Headlight* is unfortunately rare. The

¹ See American Library Association, *Friends of the library groups* (2d ed.; Chicago: American Library Association, 1937); Guy R. Lyle, "College library handbooks," *Bulletin of the American Library Association*, XXXII (1938), 315-22; John D. Russell, "The college library report," *Bulletin of the American Library Association*, XXX (1936), 216-20.

reason, of course, is obvious. A successful bulletin is expensive and takes time to edit. Librarians, though long on ideas and aspirations, are notoriously short on cash and time. A monthly of any size and distinction will scarcely cost less than five hundred dollars a year, and two of the best quarterlies now published cost, on an average, seventy-five dollars an issue for publication costs alone. In terms of hardheaded investment, it is unlikely that the library will receive in the early years of its publication an equivalent in cash or book gifts. Library bulletins are primarily a means for increasing the usefulness of a library. Only indirectly may they help to build up good will and support. It is not uncommon, for example, to mention special books which the library cannot afford to purchase from its regular budget. And not infrequently one reads in a later issue the acknowledgment of a gift of some of these items from a reader and friend of the library.

The point is sometimes made that the book bulletin is an expensive luxury which merely attempts, in a small way, to duplicate commercial book-review journals which are served by a wider and more various range of writers. There is truth in this, of course, but one sees immediately two objections. First, the book bulletin reviews only books which the library has purchased and made available for reading. No student or teacher can find time to read all the books that are coming into the library, and the student, especially, needs help and guidance in selecting his reading. Review reading in the better commercial journals is a good way to keep up with the swiftly moving current of contemporary thought, but it ought not to be a substitute for book-reading—and this, in the hurly-burly of campus life, is what too often happens. If the books are not available in the library the inclination to read is soon lost. Book-bulletin reviews, on the other hand, are usually short, they express the opinions of library-staff members or teachers whom the students know, and the books themselves are available on display or may be secured by reserve. Second, the contents of the library-book bulletin are not limited to reviews and book notes. It serves as a regular channel for interpreting library services to students and

faculty. "One hears rumours," writes an experienced librarian, "that the library way of doing things and its resources for doing them—or not doing them—are quite mysterious to many." The book bulletin offers an opportunity to clear up these mysteries; to explain the work of the catalog, order, and circulation departments; to label and interpret such intangible services as personal guidance in reading and using the library; to describe exhibits and special collections; and to call attention to materials and services which are of little use because nobody knows about them. These are just a few of the instances in which the bulletin helps to increase the usefulness of the college library. Every alert librarian could extend this list with several illustrations of his own.

A MODEL BULLETIN

Although it is not widely removed from the current pattern of printed bulletins, Dartmouth's *Library bulletin* has assets which make it a worthy model for study. Its maiden issue appeared in 1931—a year later than its nearest rival—but it has been the inspiration of many other bulletins since then. Its appearance is distinguished, and it never fails to make the most commonplace incidents in library work interesting and amusing.

Dartmouth's original establishment as a school for the education of Indians is symbolized in an intriguing cover design. Distinction and beauty are both contributed through the choice of a fine quality of paper and pleasing typography. Inside pages are as impressive and beautiful as the cover. The title is less striking. It is not, however, the outward appearance or typographical excellence of Dartmouth's bulletin which counts most—it is the variety, interest, and graceful literary style of its contents. This is accomplished in two ways. First, in approaching every aspect of the library's work, from rare books down to the most mechanical operation in library routine, the editor of the *Library bulletin* thinks primarily in terms of his readers. This is not as simple or as easy as it sounds. It is reflected in the choice of captions for articles and in the method of presenting material. The discussion of library fines, for example, is headed "\$3000

unwanted." The point is made clear in the article that fines are not for the majority of students who would return their books on time in any case; on the other hand, "nobody as yet has advanced as workable a scheme for causing John Doe to remember the right of Richard Roe to read, before too long a while, the book that John saw first." Second, the style of writing reflected in the *Library bulletin* is direct, pleasant, and witty. There is nothing official or impersonal about it. The mere repetition of routines in library work is enough to take the sap out of professional thinking, but Dartmouth's contributors are aware of this and are on their guard to see that it is not reflected in their writing.

Selections from the contents of a file of the *Library bulletin* should help the librarian to see more clearly the purposes of a library publication and should suggest some ideas for injecting variety into its contents. Some of the types of material qualifying for admission in its pages are:

1. *Special collections*

Subject collections: Americana

Italian dialect collection

Nineteenth- and twentieth-century Spanish plays

Special library collections:

Art library

Medical library

Map collection

Music resources

Pamphlet collection

Restricted books

2. *The work of departments*

Interesting summaries of the functions and procedures in the

Catalog department

Order department

Periodicals

Reserves

Bindery

Treasure room

Tower room (recreational reading)

3. *Explanation of library policies and rules*

Open-stack policy

Reclassification of policies and problems

- Faculty return of books
- Book selection—undergraduate versus research
- Fines
- 4. *Special services*
 - Interlibrary loans
 - Photostats and film
 - Research services
- 5. *Publicity and interpretation*
 - Notice of exhibits
 - Excerpts from the librarian's annual report
 - Lists of desiderata
 - Acknowledgments of gifts
 - Notable purchases indicating lines of interest
 - Discussion of work of friends-of-the-library organizations
- 6. *Archival material*
 - Reprints of interesting and often humorous letters and documents from the college archives
- 7. *Fillers*
 - Amusing incidents relating to service
 - Bookish notes culled from book catalogs, correspondence, etc.
 - Unusual happenings
- 8. *Book lists*
 - Recent accessions, listed without notes or with line annotations
 - Occasional articles about books on a special subject
 - New periodicals added to the library

With less skilful editing, this material might be very dull. Fortunately, the editor of the *Library bulletin* has a facile pen and a rare gift for communicating his sense of high adventure in librarianship and books. His handling of Dartmouth's archival lore and culture for brief fillers gives a special flavor to the bulletin. One's curiosity is piqued by titles such as these—"Books behind bars," "Top soil" (this for a discussion of the grimy edges of catalog cards), "To him who hath" (polite reminder to the faculty to get books back within a reasonable time), "Diversions in Baker Street," and others. As a model for showing how even the most commonplace events in library work can be fascinatingly interpreted the *Library bulletin* is an inspiration. Articles are signed with the writer's initials, and faculty contributions are frequently included.

VARIATIONS

The outstanding difference between Dartmouth's bulletin and the printed book bulletins of other college and university libraries is the emphasis which the latter place on book lists and book notes. Connecticut Wesleyan's *About books* carries regularly two or three pages of book notes about a "few more or less significant books" and occasional articles about books on timely topics or reprints of important book lists which have appeared elsewhere; Drew University Library's *Within these gates* has extended book lists with rather complete notes; and the University of New Hampshire's *Library lantern* is entirely devoted to book notices. Pennsylvania State College's *Headlight* devotes ten of its twelve pages, as a general rule, to short notices of a cross-section of the newer books received by the library and, like *About books*, carries short bibliographies on special subjects. The reviews in the *Headlight* are written by members of the faculty and library staff with a few contributions from students and visiting professors. The librarian contributes two or three short notices in each issue under the caption "The librarian's shelf." It is to be noted that most of the book notices are signed in full or with the initials of the writer. Colby Junior College's superbly captioned and neatly printed pocket digest, *Book pedlar*, begun as a classified record of the purchases made with a generous Carnegie grant, now combines this feature with several pages of comment on selected recent books. The prefatory notes, expanded in recent issues to tell more about the library and its regular work, are pleasantly informal and are aimed at the reading interests and tastes of younger students.

The book notes in all these book bulletins are good, while those in the *Headlight* and *Library Lantern* seem, to the writer, unsurpassed in interest and in general excellence. Generally speaking, they are brief and free from puffs, tags, and clichés. They give the reader much in the way of information and entertainment. The frequent use of captions for subject groupings to break the monotony of twelve or even four pages of book notes not only adds something to the appearance of the bulletin but

makes it more readable. There are dangers, of course, in subject groupings of books in a short book bulletin. Choice of a dozen sparkling headings may be inspiring but often results in making misfits of several of the books. The plan of grouping books so that those of greatest general appeal appear first and of stepping down the length of the reviews from quarter-page book notices on the opening pages to single-line annotations on later pages is a useful device to imitate.

To the librarian contemplating the publication of a book bulletin, special features in the bulletins mentioned above should be of particular interest. *About books* and the *Headlight* carry regular features in each issue: in the former, two pages or so of "Book notes" with short comments, and a potpourri of library gossip, interesting news items culled from books, notices of gifts and desiderata, etc., appearing under the lively caption "Overheard around the charging desk"; in the latter, a section devoted to notes about the library, personnel, exhibits, special accessions, and other items, entitled "The inner workings." Both endeavor, as does the Dartmouth *Library bulletin*, to give current news of the library, to describe its work for the layman, and to chronicle important accessions. Likewise, they keep an alert eye on the interests of scattered alumni and friends who receive the bulletin by mail. Gifts are carefully recorded, notable gifts receive special mention, and lists of desiderata—not necessarily expensive ones but items within modest reach—are occasionally mentioned. Exhibits play a prominent part in the library news reported in *About books*, and at least one issue has been devoted entirely to a single exhibit. The *Headlight* publishes lists of new periodicals added and calls attention to little-used material. Highlights from the librarian's annual report appear in *About books*. An interesting feature of Drew's *Within these gates* is the series of articles by faculty members designed to stimulate student interest in building personal libraries in special fields. Private book collections in science, religion, and English literature have been discussed to date.

FORMAT AND COST

Special emphasis is placed on the format of the book bulletin to the end that it will not only appear attractive to the reader but also reflect credit on the library whose name it bears. Mention has already been made of the distinguished and appropriate typography of Dartmouth's *Library bulletin*. Three of the book bulletins add variety by using a different-color paper stock for the covers of successive issues. The color scheme of the cover is carried into the text in the *Headlight*, and this, combined with good use of display face type for captions, produces attractive

COST OF BOOK BULLETINS

Library	Title	First Issued	Frequency	Number Copies per Issue	Size	Cost per Issue
Dartmouth.....	<i>Library bulletin</i>	1931	3 times a year	950	$6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 9\frac{1}{4}''$ 14 pp.	\$75
Connecticut Wesleyan.	<i>About books</i>	1930	Quarterly	800	$6\frac{1}{2}'' \times 9\frac{1}{4}''$ 12 pp.	80
Pennsylvania State....	<i>Headlight</i>	1932	Bimonthly	1,500	$5\frac{1}{2}'' \times 8\frac{1}{4}''$ 12 pp.	26
Colby Junior.....	<i>Book pedlar</i>	1937	Quarterly	600	$5\frac{1}{4}'' \times 7\frac{3}{8}''$ 15-40 pp.	80

results. Six by nine inches appears to be a favorite size, and three of the book bulletins run to about twelve pages to the copy. Illustrations are occasionally used in *About books* and more frequently in *Within these gates*, where they are reproduced from borrowed electrotypes. The latter takes its stand along with the printed bulletins in spite of the fact that its contents are mimeographed. The pocket size has something to do with its attractive appearance. In addition, the mimeographing is crisp and clear. The pages are stapled into a bright-colored paper cover bearing a printed reproduction of the campus gates.

Local printing costs, the size of the bulletin, use of illustrations, type of paper stock, difficult makeup, and other factors

influence publishing expenses. Therefore it is impossible to estimate accurately the cost of an "average" or "typical" bulletin. However, the comparative figures given in the preceding table furnish the data for arriving at an approximate estimate of the probable printing costs.

Book bulletins are distributed on the campus to administrative officers, faculty, and selected groups of students by local mail or from the main-library loan desks and the departmental libraries. By outside mail they are sent to trustees, alumni, friends of the library, library periodicals, library schools, and other libraries.

BOOK LISTS

Mimeographed book lists far outnumber all other forms of library publications for general distribution. Some of the best of these have qualities in common with the book-bulletin type just described, although their main purpose is to record the new acquisitions. The actual publication cost is small; the clerical work involved may be considerable. Temple University Library estimates the cost of its monthly *On the shelf* (300 copies per issue) at approximately \$2.45 for stencils and paper.

In planning a mimeographed book list to keep the faculty informed of new additions, the librarian can take the entire stock of current additions for material or he can make a selection. In the large college and university libraries it may not be either desirable or justifiable to issue a complete serial list of current accessions, but, since the demand for this information comes from the faculty who want to know what books are being added in their own and related fields, it would seem desirable to aim at completeness whenever possible. If selection is essential because of the bulk of current accessions, then a definite plan should be formulated regarding what should be eliminated. It is impossible to make a haphazard selection of the titles to go in each list without limiting the effectiveness of the book list. Dartmouth omits foreign-language books from its monthly multilith book lists. As a general rule documents, professional-library lit-

erature, and other classes of little-used material may be eliminated if selection is essential.

The format and arrangement of the book lists are as varied as their titles. Most libraries follow the classified arrangement of the Dewey or Library of Congress scheme, giving suitable captions for each class and arranging titles alphabetically under class. Another scheme is to classify the books by subject and to arrange the subjects alphabetically throughout the list. This scheme has advantages for the reader who is unfamiliar with the library-classification scheme, and it is used by Louisiana State and the Woman's College of the University of North Carolina. In most cases the information for each title consists of call number, author, title, and date of publication. Originality and appeal are the usual goals in selecting a title for the book list. However, the choice of title does not seem as important for the book list as for the book bulletin, where a truly individual title such as Pennsylvania State's *Headlight* may have much to do with the eventual success of the bulletin. Some of the common names used for book lists are *Stray library leaves*, *On the shelf*, *Library book list*, *Library leaves*, *Scout*, *New books*, *Recent accessions*, and *Monthly record*.

While the demand for the mimeographed list of current purchases comes mainly from the faculty, the thing that keeps the publication alive is the librarian's ambition to have a regular channel of communication with the faculty. Few overlook the opportunity to use the introductory pages of each number of the book list proper for presenting interesting and informative notes about staff activities, exhibits, gifts, new services, etc. Items which qualify for admission to the introductory pages of a year's file of Rochester's skilfully edited *Fortnightly bulletin* include the following:

- Statement of policy concerning the loaning of bound journals
- New periodicals and continuations
- Undergraduate use of the stacks
- Report on library circulation for first six months of year
- Annotated list of important additions to the reference collection
- Annotated list of outstanding books of the year (annual list)
- Summer reading list (annual list)

Descriptions of important exhibits

Circulation statistics

Little-known sources of information in the university library

Temple University Library's *On the shelf* carries brief notes on gifts, personnel, policies, and services. It is the medium for a variety of information helpful to faculty members who are or should be making the most effective use of library services. Like the Woman's College (University of North Carolina) *Library book list*, it includes in its introductory pages notices of new faculty publications, selections of significant pamphlets and public documents, and announcements of new periodical titles added. The editor of *Stray library leaves* (Teachers College, Columbia) has a talent for adorning well-chosen quotations with sparkling personal comment on the cover sheet of this weekly publication. Texas University makes its *Library book list* attractive looking by changing the color of the cover pages of consecutive issues. Colorado State College's *Scout* combines books and periodical articles with brief informal notes about each title, in a highly selective monthly list. *Library leaves* of Long Island University, appearing quarterly, is distinguished for its artistry in color mimeographing.

The issuance of a mimeographed weekly, monthly, or quarterly book list is the most interesting, and probably the least hazardous, adventure in publishing on which a college or university library can embark. The factors which insure success are regularity and continuity in issuance, an arrangement of subjects and titles which will facilitate its use by the faculty, and a page or two of introductory comment with enough of human inspiration, information, and humor to make the book list not only a useful tool but interesting and readable. Copies are usually sent to all members of the faculty and administration and are sometimes sent to outside friends of the library. Copies are also posted in the dormitories and in departmental libraries and are available for consultation in the main library by students. Mailing lists are revised frequently to make sure that the book list is being sent only to those who really want it and make use of it.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Library of Congress offers to send the following booklets free to libraries. (Address Publications Office and specify titles wanted.)

Books, maps, and prints relating to New Sweden. Tercentenary commemorating the first settlement of the Swedes and the Finns on the Delaware. On exhibition at the Library of Congress. 1938. Pp. 51.

Indic manuscripts and paintings selected from the collections of the Library of Congress. 1939. Pp. 16.

Books, manuscripts, and drawings relating to tobacco, from the collection of George Arents, Jr. On exhibition at the Library of Congress. 1938. Pp. 113.

Exhibition of contemporary French prints (at the Library of Congress). 1928. Pp. 15+29 plates.

Joseph Pennell: an account by his wife, issued on the occasion of a memorial exhibition of his works (at the Library of Congress). 1927. Pp. 49+illus.

Joseph Pennell memorial exhibition (at the Library of Congress). Catalog. 1927. Pp. 46.

Exhibit of books, manuscripts, bindings, illustrations, and broadsides from the collection of John Davis Batchelder (at the Library of Congress). 1938. Pp. 62.

Postage stamps: a selective check list of books on philately in the Library of Congress. 1940. Pp. 61.

Exhibit of music, including manuscripts and rare imprints (at the Library of Congress). Catalog. 1938. Pp. 61.

[Walt Whitman], *List of manuscripts, books, portraits, prints, broadsides, and memorabilia from the collection of Mrs. F. J. Sprague, exhibited at the Library of Congress.* 1939. Pp. 71.

MORE ON EARLY MEDICAL BOOKS

IN HIS study of "The earliest medical books printed with movable type" (*Library quarterly*, X [1940], 220-30) Mr. Thomas E. Keys performed a useful service by supplementing Sir William Osler's remarkable study of medical incunabula (which is concerned only with books printed before 1481) with a rapid survey of similar works published from 1481 until the close of the fifteenth century. The article is interesting, even informative; it is, however, deficient and inaccurate in some parts. Those who are interested in the annals of early medical works printed with movable type find in it no information as to such publications in Hebrew characters which appeared before 1500.

Several translations into Hebrew were made of the Arabic text of Avicenna's *Canon* and the one by Nathan (ha-Meati) of Cento and Joseph Lorki is the best known of all such versions. It was printed with movable type at Naples in the press of Azriel Gunzenhausen and appeared in 1491. Many a student of medicine who depended on the Hebrew language for instruction in the subject drew most abundantly upon the knowledge this book offers. Many an eminent Jewish physician in the Middle Ages acquired his fame as a practitioner of medicine because of the instruction he derived from the use of this remarkable textbook in medicine. It deserves well that it escape not the eye of the bibliographer and certainly should have been mentioned in Mr. Keys's survey. It is not mentioned in Osler's *Incunabula medica* because that work deals only with books printed from 1467 to 1480.

What Mr. Keys has to say about Moses Maimonides, the distinguished Spanish Jewish physician and philosopher, is fairly correct. However, were Maimonides alive today, he would decline the credit given him for translating "two canons of Avicenna into Hebrew." Mr. Keys must have been misled as were other scholars by the long-discredited claim that Maimonides was responsible for such a work. It is well known that Maimonides led an extremely busy life and that he had no time to render into Hebrew or into any other language the works of Avicenna or for that matter those of any other author. In a letter written in September, 1199, and addressed to the man who translated into Hebrew some of his own works, Samuel Ibn Tibbon, one of the most famous medieval translators into Hebrew of Arabic

texts, Maimonides tells in detail of the excessively busy life which he led, making it impossible for him to indulge in such work as helping the translator and still less in translating himself.

Mr. Keys is not the first among bibliographers to place Maimonides among the translators of Arabic texts into Hebrew. It has been done before but not previous to 1873. In that year, in connection with the first session of the International Congress of Orientalists held at Paris, there was exhibited an illuminated Hebrew manuscript belonging to the library of the University of Bologna, then described as a version of the *Canon* made by Moses Maimonides in 1186 from the Arabic text of Avicenna obtained in Egypt. The inscription conveying this information misled many a scholar in assuming that Maimonides, among the multifold duties he was called upon to perform, also found time to translate Arabic texts into Hebrew. The inscription has been discredited long ago. The indefatigable Moritz Steinschneider (in *Hebräische Bibliographie*, XVII [1877], 58, 76) called attention to the fact that an unscrupulous hand effected slight changes in the copyist's inscription on the manuscript to make it appear older than it actually is. Again (in his *Hebräische Uebersetzungen des Mittelalters* [Berlin, 1893], pp. 679 ff.) he describes in detail the character of the forgery involved. He leaves no doubt that the manuscript is of a much later date and that Maimonides had no hand in it. Prolific as Moses Maimonides was as a writer, he is not known as a translator. The thousands of manuscripts representing Hebrew translations from other languages now scattered in the great libraries of the world contain not a line attributable to the great medieval Jewish philosopher and physician.

JOSHUA BLOCH

New York Public Library

THE CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

RALPH T. ESTERQUEST, assistant librarian of the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey, was born in Chicago in 1912. After undergraduate work at Northwestern University (B.S., 1933) and graduate study in anthropology at Columbia University, he received his library training at the University of Illinois (B.S. in library science, 1936; M.A., 1940). He has been a member of the staffs of Northwestern University library and of the University of Illinois library. Since December 1 he has been associated with the Institute for Advanced Study in the capacity of library assistant to the economic section of the League of Nations. This section has recently transferred its headquarters to Princeton from Geneva.

Mr. Esterquest's study was made in the fall of 1939. For this reason he hopes to be excused if, in the face of the present European conflict, his "subject is rather inexplicably academic."

HAROLD WELLINGTON JONES was born November 5, 1877, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He graduated from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1898 and received his M.D. from Harvard Medical School in 1901. He was an honor graduate of the Army Medical School in 1906. He entered the United States Army in 1905 and was made a colonel in 1932. He served in the Philippine insurrection, the Mexican expedition under Pershing, the A.E.F. in the World War; and from 1918-19 he commanded the Beau Désert Hospital Center in France. He was chief of surgical service in General Hospital 41 and at Fort Sam Houston. From 1933-36 he was commanding officer of the Tripler General Hospital in Hawaii. Since 1936 he has been librarian of the Army Medical Library. In 1939 and 1940 he served as president of the Medical Library Association. He was chairman of the American delegation to the Ninth International Congress of Military Medicine in Rumania in 1937 and secretary-general of the Tenth International Congress of Military Medicine in Washington in 1939. He is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons. He has written several pamphlets and journal articles on surgery, the history of medicine, library science, and related subjects.

JOHN J. LUND: for biographical information see the *Library quarterly*, VII (1937), 434-35. In January, 1938, Mr. Lund became head

of the order department of Duke University library, and in September, 1939, he was appointed librarian. Last year the American Library Association published his translation of Wilhelm Munthe's *American librarianship from a European angle*.

GUY R. LYLE: for biographical information see the *Library quarterly*, III (1933), 192. In 1935-36 Mr. Lyle was instructor at the University of Illinois library school. Since 1936 he has been librarian of the Women's College of the University of North Carolina. He is co-author of *Classified list of periodicals for the college library* (Faxon, 1940; rev. and enl.); joint author of the survey reports on the university libraries of Florida and Georgia; and editor of the "Crow's nest" (*Wilson library bulletin*).

SIGISMUND RUNGE, librarian (*Bibliotheksrat*) at the library of the Technische Hochschule in Karlsruhe, Germany, was born July 10, 1901, in Schwetzingen, near Heidelberg. After attending the Gymnasium in Saarburg and also in Heidelberg, he continued his studies in Heidelberg, Freiburg, and Munich, and took the degree of Doctor of Jurisprudence in 1925. He then entered library service at the university library in Heidelberg, where he took his professional library examination after a one-year course at the Staatsbibliothek in Munich. In 1936 he moved from Heidelberg to the Technische Hochschule in Karlsruhe.

He is the author of numerous articles and reviews in the *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, *IID-Communicationes*, etc. In 1935, upon the death of Hans Trebst, he became chairman of the Committee on Subject Cataloging (Ausschuss für Sachkatalogisierung) of the Association of German Librarians, and is now engaged with his collaborators in the construction of a model subject-cataloging system for German libraries.

CATHERINE VAN DYNE, head of the lending department of the Newark public library, was born in Newark in 1891. After taking the Newark library apprentice course she held a number of positions in the Newark library. She left in 1920 to become librarian of the National Association of Casualty and Surety Underwriters, New York. For a brief period she was an advertising copywriter for L. Bamberger and Company. She returned to the Newark library in 1923, was in charge of publications for a number of years, and was appointed to her present position in 1930.

THE COVER DESIGN

HERMAN BUNGART, whose mark is reproduced on the cover, described himself as "of Ketwich." His family, however, evidently lived for many years in the Old Market, Cologne, where he afterward set up in business. He began his career as a bookseller in 1490 or 1491. Successful in this, he began to print—he completed his first book late in 1494—and soon had a flourishing business established at the sign of the Wildman. He confined himself almost exclusively to religious works. Bungart continued printing until 1521 or shortly thereafter. He is last heard of in June, 1527, and probably died in that year.

Bungart's mark depicts Mary holding the Child, who receives the adoration and gifts of the Three Kings, the patron saints of Cologne. Shining above is the Star of Bethlehem. On the arch above the figures is a shield bearing the coat of arms of Cologne, between a wild man and a wild woman—allusions to the printer's house sign—bearing each a shield with an heraldic (or pseudoheraldic) device. At Mary's foot is another shield with a geometrical device, possibly the printer's merchant's mark. Below is the legend: "Gedruckt in Collen vp deme alde[n]mart tzo deme wilden manne."

EDWIN ELLIOTT WILLOUGHBY

FOLGER SHAKESPEARE LIBRARY

REVIEW ARTICLE

NEW PROBLEMS FOR GERMAN LIBRARIANS

To those of us who are interested in European librarianship it is a significant commentary to read in the *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* that the annual meetings of the Verein Deutscher Bibliothekare are opened with a "Sieg Heil" and the "Horst-Wessel-Lied." Older American librarians hardly recognize the country of Heyne, Dziatzko, and Milkau; and the younger generation is only bewildered by the activities of our German colleagues. But whatever the sentiment in this country toward the Nazis may be, it is only the part of wisdom to follow their program as closely as possible. Too many European countries have unhappily made the fatal mistake of ignoring and underestimating the work of their antagonist. We still have time to learn and draw our own conclusions as citizens of a free democracy.

Within Germany there has been a great volume of literature on the new orientation for both popular and research libraries. This brief review of National Socialist library literature makes no attempt to cover the entire field but only to comment on samples, nearly all from the *Zentralblatt*. The viewpoint is limited to that of the university and research libraries, since these institutions are the heirs of the great traditions of nineteenth-century German scholarship. The public library movement is still comparatively new in Germany, although in recent years it has attracted considerable support as an ideal medium for propaganda (cf. the recent intensified activity of our own public libraries as centers of *democratic* education). In the following *résumés* it should be noted that the most radical comment occurs in addresses delivered at the V.D.B. conferences. This would suggest that many German librarians are giving only lip service to the dominant political ideology. Accordingly, it would be both inaccurate and unfair to draw any conclusions about the political allegiance of the men whose names are mentioned in this review.

In a critical period for libraries, it might be normally expected that the first new problem would be administrative. While many new names now appear in high places in German libraries, the traditional mechanics of library routine have remained the same. The only attempt to give a new National Socialist interpretation to library administration has been made by Gustav Abb, director of the University of Berlin Library, in an article bearing the title "Von der Kollegialfassung zum Führerprinzip. Ein Beitrag zur Verfassungsgeschichte der Preussischen Staatsbibliothek."¹ The essay itself con-

¹ *Festschrift Georg Leyn* (Leipzig: Otto Harrassowitz, 1937), pp. 245-56.

tains no current political implications, and it is one of the best recent contributions to the history of research libraries in Germany. But the title is too obvious. (*Führerprinzip* is a technical word in the new German political science.) With all due respect to the opinions of some younger American librarians, it is to be hoped that there are few who question the principle of having one director to determine library policy, and surely there are none, in America or abroad, who confuse the office of a library administrator with that of a political dictator. Briefly, Abb's article shows how French revolutionary tendencies called for co-operative administration of the Bibliothèque nationale (Royale), how the Berlin Staats- (Königliche) Bibliothek was influenced to adopt the same system, and how it was ultimately overthrown by Georg Heinrich Pertz, the distinguished editor of the *Monumenta Germaniae historica* and director of the library after 1842. Abb concludes that the success of the Prussian library system was largely due to the energy of Pertz, who established firmly an inflexible administrative organization.

An outline of the basic work of the National Socialist research library was given by Fritz Prinzhorn, recently appointed to succeed Georg Leyh at Tübingen. As the host librarian at the Danzig conference of the V.D.B. in 1934 he spoke on "Die Aufgaben der Bibliotheken im nationalsozialistischen Deutschland."² Especial emphasis was placed on the facts that the new regime had been able to suppress much "unworthy" literature—thus making the problems of book selection much easier—and that the new Germany would pay more attention to popular libraries. He mentions the three most outstanding contributions of Germany to librarianship as (1) the *Preussischer* (now *Deutscher*) *Gesamtkatalog*, (2) the establishment of the Auskunftsbüro der deutschen Bibliotheken, and (3) the introduction of the German system of interlibrary loan. While Prinzhorn is tempted to attribute these accomplishments to qualities implied in such popular catchwords as "deutsche Rasse" and "deutsche Geschichte," a less impassioned observer would be inclined to credit them to the spirit of exact and impartial scholarship that once assured Germany of world-leadership in many fields of learning. And yet even the most violent anti-Nazi is impressed with the unifying work of the Hitler government if he only glances up at his bibliography shelf and sees how Volume VIII of the *Gesamtkatalog der preussischen Bibliotheken* becomes Volume IX of the *Deutscher Gesamtkatalog* and thereby the most important bibliographical project of practical significance in modern times. Likewise, it must be admitted that the work of the new government in promoting popular libraries is praiseworthy in principle, although it can hardly be said that it is done to further democratic ideas.

Naturally, the greatest problem for German university libraries after 1933 was book selection. Whole classes of literature and of authors were no longer allowed to circulate freely, and research itself was given entirely new tasks.

² *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, LI (1934), 465-71.

The first German librarian to consider the problem was Joachim Kirchner, director of the Frankfurt-am-Main Library for Modern Languages and Music (one of the four divisions of the combined University and Municipal Library). At the V.D.B. Darmstadt conference of 1933 he spoke on "Schrifttum und wissenschaftliche Bibliothek im nationalsozialistischen Deutschland."³ Writing only a few months after Adolph Hitler had become chancellor, he is still quite enthusiastic about the burning of "viele Tausende von Büchern" and commends this action as "dankenswert." But he says that the problem is deeper than these external manifestations tend to show. In the tremendous "overproduction" of books during the twenties there was a tendency to allow thousands of useless and even harmful works to be published. This was especially evident in the field of exact scholarship, for young scholars were more interested in breaking into print than producing something for the common good. The overproduction meant that German librarians had to be more superficial in book selection than they were accustomed to be in the past.⁴ Accordingly, Kirchner argues, the introduction of new ideals will make this task of librarianship much easier since a great deal less will be published. He suggests that all books by Jewish authors be prohibited from libraries and that only a few Marxist books be kept—these under careful guard. A hint as to the slenderness of appropriations and the scarcity of foreign exchange is given when he suggests that foreign purchases be limited to the absolute minimum. There is at least one cheerful note in his article when he writes: "Die deutsche Intelligenz hat sich leider den grossen Zielen gegenüber, die Hitler-Bewegung zu einer alles beherrschenden Macht siegreich erhoben haben, recht abwartend verhalten."⁵

Book-burning was never conducted on such a large scale as the improvident statements of these early enthusiasts lead one to assume. To believe that millions of books have been burned is to underestimate grossly the highly developed sense of economy in modern Germany. Librarians soon began to give the problem of banned literature more careful attention.

No one should be better qualified to speak on the subject of "Das verbotene Schrifttum und die wissenschaftlichen Bibliotheken"⁶ than Hans Peter des Coudres, head of the Bibliothek der Schutzstaffeln at Burg Wewelsburg in Westphalia (for the S.S. school "Haus Wewelsburg"). His address was delivered at the V.D.B. conference in Tübingen in 1935. As he points out in the beginning, it is no new problem for libraries, recalling how Duke Albrecht V

³ *Ibid.*, L (1933), 514-25.

⁴ Since most European research libraries have long enjoyed the benefits of depository legislation, state appropriations for book funds have been much less than what American libraries are accustomed to receive. Therefore the German librarian has been traditionally conscientious in spending the small sum set aside for his free disposal.

⁵ *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, L (1933), 524.

⁶ *Ibid.*, LII (1935), 459-71.

of Bavaria received, after much difficulty, a papal "indult" in 1576 enabling him to acquire books on the *Index*, provided they were sequestered and made unavailable for the general public. Today it is a question of political rather than blasphemous or obscene literature. Des Coudres suggests quite sensibly that it would defeat the purposes of National Socialist scholars to destroy all literature antagonistic to the state but that it should be kept away from the scholarly curious and the curious scholars. There are two great difficulties in dealing with forbidden literature. In the first place, much of it cannot be purchased by German libraries at any price and must be begged from confiscating authorities. In the second place, it is hard to know what literature is forbidden, since the list of the *Börsenblatt* is incomplete and that of the Propaganda Ministry is not circulated widely. Also there is the tremendous volume of now forbidden literature published before 1933. Another problem is whether to include entries for these works in the public catalog, and, if so, under what subject headings. Des Coudres recommends that all libraries exercise the utmost care to gather all such literature, emphasizing at the same time the increased responsibilities of its custodians. He recommends further that it not be available for interlibrary loan and photographic reproduction and that it be circulated only within the library and to persons recommended by university or party authorities.

It is interesting to note that the Library Association's *A survey of libraries* reveals a similar attitude on the part of Soviet Russian librarians. H. M. Cashmore, visiting the great public library in Leningrad, reports:

All registered readers can have access to all the books in the possession of the library, but only *bona fide* students approved by the librarian have access to books [chiefly foreign] which violently attack the present Russian system. All such anti-Soviet literature is carefully preserved.¹

The conception of the increased responsibility of the librarian in dealing with forbidden literature has been expanded somewhat by Rudolf Kummer, a Berlin official in the library branch of the Ministry of Education. Speaking on "Das wissenschaftliche Bibliothekswesen im nationalsozialistischen Deutschland"² before the Passau conference of the V.D.B. in 1938, he gives a sober account of German research libraries in the preceding five years and reveals the trends quite dispassionately; but at the same time he outlines the new qualifications for librarianship. Since German librarians have been called upon more than ever for bibliographic advice since 1933, they must be made to realize their responsibility for doing it in the spirit of the new regime. Therefore, Kummer recommends strongly the three-week course for Third Reich librarians held annually at Bad Tölz and Tutzing. It might be observed also that membership in the party, or adherence to one of its branches, is now

¹ *A survey of libraries* (London: The Library Association, 1938), p. 309.

² *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, LV (1938), 390-413.

almost an official prerequisite for promotion or even entrance into the profession.

Much more troublesome for National Socialist librarians than political books are the works of Jewish authors. Volkmar Eichstädt of the Berlin Staatsbibliothek and the staff of the *Gesamtkatalog* addressed the 1939 V.D.B. conference at Graz on "Das Schrifttum zur Judenfrage in den deutschen Bibliotheken."⁹ First of all, he notes the necessity of collecting all literature by and about German Jews. Hitherto, he argues, the history of the Jews in Germany had been written from a Jewish standpoint and the whole work now remains to be done over by the scholars of the Third Reich. Libraries must cooperate with them in gathering material. Surveying the present resources of German libraries, he points out that the Berlin Staatsbibliothek, because of its universality, has the best collection on the subject, but also the Munich and Vienna national libraries, and, of course, the Frankfurt-am-Main library are also well equipped. He mentions what will ultimately be the most complete library in the world for the "Jewish question": the library of the Reichsinstitut für die Geschichte des neuen Deutschlands in Munich, now under construction. He goes into cataloging problems at great length. To us the choice of such headings as "Antisemitismus" and "Ritualmord" would cause no undue commotion in cataloging routine, but it is a primary task for our German colleagues to exercise their critical acumen in assigning the correct headings to works in this field. Much as some of us are disturbed by the proximity of religion and superstition in some classification schemes, Eichstädt is equally unhappy about the grouping of the "Jewish question" with the history of religions or of Asia Minor in German schemes. Only the special libraries of the N.S.D.A.P., he claims, have solved the problem correctly by classing "Judenfrage" with "Rassengeschichte."

In addition to difficulties of book selection, officials of German research libraries have been burdened by doubled demands for reference service during the last seven years. Patrons ordinarily served by public libraries in this country must turn to the research libraries in Germany, since public libraries are relatively undeveloped, and the university and research libraries cannot refuse their services, since they are located in urban centers and are supported by the state. With the German national feeling raised to a high pitch, it is inevitable that the average citizen should turn to the libraries for information on military affairs, world-politics, raw materials, *ersatz* products, and many other matters concerning the war economy of National Socialism. While no figures are available from university libraries, Heinrich Uhlendahl, director of the Deutsche Bücherei in Leipzig, reports that reference questions increased from 18,000 in 1932 to 40,200 in 1937.¹⁰ Private estimates from university librarians in Greifswald, Rostock, and Cologne indicate similar

⁹ *Ibid.*, LVII (1940), 60-74.

¹⁰ "Fünfundzwanzig Jahre deutscher Bücherei," *ibid.*, LVI (1939), 14.

increases there. Much more important than this work, however, is the service given to industrial research by the libraries of the technical colleges. Ernst Koch, director of the library of the Technische Hochschule in Dresden, has outlined this work in his essay on "Die Bibliothek der technischen Hochschule und die Industrie."¹¹ The German technical library most active in giving aid to industry has been that of the Technische Hochschule in Berlin, whose director is Albert Predeek, well known in the United States. At that institution there are several engineers without library training who are paid by various subscribing industrial concerns. Predeek has described this service to several audiences, among them the A.L.A. New York conference of 1937.¹² There is little doubt but that this contribution of the technical libraries has been of invaluable assistance in the reconstruction of German military forces and the supporting industries.

Special libraries have grown up everywhere in National Socialist Germany, but the most interesting are collections of the various party offices. At the V.D.B. conference in Passau in 1938 Joachim Petzold spoke on "Das Büchereiwesen der N.S.D.A.P. unter besonderer Berücksichtigung der wissenschaftlichen und Spezialbibliotheken."¹³ These libraries have not attained the status of great research institutions, but the collections as described by Petzold are most significant. Especial attention has been given to books on racial anthropology, Jewish history, Indo-European and Germanic antiquities, and, for the benefit of trusted party members, large collections of anti-Nazi works. The most noteworthy collections of National Socialist literature are in the party archives in Munich and the library of the "Kreisleitung" in Leipzig. The latter already had 8,200 titles relating to National Socialism before 1933 and today it has over 30,000. It is probably the largest collection of pro- and anti-Nazi literature in existence.

With this entirely new class of literature it has naturally been necessary to introduce some kind of classification to cover the field. An interesting contribution to the literature of classification is "Zur NS-Systematik" by K. A. Sommer of Berlin.¹⁴ There are four principal classes: "Das Volk," "Die Volksordnung," "Das Reich," and "Die politischen Arbeitsbereiche des Volkes." Under the first are classed such topics as race, heritage, history, etc.; under the second, Adolph Hitler and the N.S.D.A.P.; under the third, the interminable mass of recent publications on "die Aufgabe des ewigen Volkes"; and under the last, law, labor, technology, industry, and cultural development. Sommer recommends this classification as "edifying," since it is expected to teach all librarians who use it the basic nature of the party's aspirations. This

¹¹ *Ibid.*, pp. 476-85.

¹² "Some recent trends in German scholarly libraries," *Bulletin of the American Library Association*, XXXI (1937), 747-51.

¹³ *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, LV (1938), 524-33.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, LVI (1939), 368-70.

hazy system is probably as satisfactory as any for the motley conglomeration of publications grouped together as the literature of National Socialism, and it might even be found useful in any foreign library which has a special collection relating to modern Germany.

An interesting aspect of the V.D.B. conferences in recent years has been the attitude toward libraries in countries absorbed by Germany. Less than three months after the Anschluss, Robert Teichl of the Vienna National- (K.K. Hof-) Bibliothek spoke to the Passau conference on "Die Bibliotheken im deutschen Österreich."¹⁵ After tracing the history of Austrian libraries, Teichl describes revolutionary changes in the magnificent old library on the Josefsplatz. As early as March 16, 1938, Paul Heigl of Berlin had been named the new director, and energetic steps were taken to bring the National-bibliothek into line with the general institutional policy for Grossdeutschland. The stacks were flooded with N.S.D.A.P. literature, and the rich collections of masonic, esperanto, and Jewish literature were placed under lock and key (curious that the descriptive old Austrian title of *Kustos* has passed into oblivion). German economy at once put a stop to plans for a magnificent new and modernistic Wiener Zentralbibliothek designed to relieve the pressing congestion in nearly all Viennese libraries. On the other hand, plans were made to construct a new university city. In 1939 the new members of the V.D.B. were honored by being made host librarians at the Graz conference. The issue of the *Zentralblatt* for May, 1939, is significant for the remarks on the establishment of the protectorate and its implications for German and Czech librarianship. Rudolph Buttmann, successor of Emil Gratzl as director of the Munich Staatsbibliothek, printed a "Grusswort nach Böhmen und Mähren."¹⁶ The only practical advantage of the political move for libraries that Buttmann could state consisted in removing the great libraries between Bohemia and France from the danger of air bombardment. Otherwise he devotes his "Grusswort" to telling the Czechs of the undoubtedly important role of German Bohemians in the cultural development of the country. Immediately following his article is what amounts to a mute protest from Jaroslav Drtina of Prague, "Die Kulturfunktion der Prager National- und Universitätsbibliothek in Vergangenheit und Gegenwart."¹⁷ Drtina says, of course, nothing that might possibly be construed to offend the new masters of his country but from his objective account of the accomplishments of the Prague National Library between 1918 and 1939 we can draw our own conclusions. Finally, an article by Curt Höfner of the Munich Staatsbibliothek, "Gedanken zum Aufbau einer Spanienausstellung,"¹⁸ should be noted. German libraries have attempted to be as complete as possible in the literature of and about the fatherland's exotic political bedfellows, and exhibitions

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, LV (1938), 429-42.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, pp. 225-39.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, LVI (1939), 221-24.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*, pp. 389-95.

on Italy, Spain, and Japan have become increasingly frequent in the past decade.

There are many practical considerations for German research libraries introduced by the new turn of affairs. Above all, there is the danger of air bombardment and the destruction of priceless manuscripts and rare printed materials. Franz Hammer, of the Württemberg Landesbibliothek in Stuttgart, has considered these problems at length in an address to the V.D.B. 1935 conference in Tübingen, "Luftschutz in Bibliotheken."¹⁹ Pointing out the difficulties of distinguishing rarities from easily replaceable works and of moving books in general, he expressed the hope that libraries would be carefully distinguished as nonmilitary objectives in future wars. Unfortunately, the war in the Low Countries did not confirm Hammer's pious hopes. Incidentally, it might be noted that one Scottish library is reported to have removed its most valuable works to a bomb-proof shelter and chosen large classes of inexpensive books to be piled on the roof of the building to offer some protection. The Royal Library at Stockholm has removed its newspapers and turned the underground stack formerly used for that purpose into an air-raid shelter for the staff.

It is too early to make any predictions as to the future of research libraries in Germany, but several general conclusions can be drawn from their recent history. By and large they have accepted the new order of things—much to the detriment of many historic functions—but, on the other hand, they have been of invaluable assistance in preparing Germany for the present war. Two decades after the war of 1914–18 it has suddenly been revealed that the military functions of the library extend far beyond the routine duty of providing recreational reading for the armed forces. And yet this has been possible only through the strenuous efforts of librarian-party-members to make all libraries creatures of the state. This has had its inevitable consequences in slowing down the process of research in many fields and even making some research material unavailable. Still, such programs as book-burning and closing the libraries to Jewish and Marxist authors have found no widespread support after the first momentary enthusiasm. There are many indications that forces still exist within the V.D.B. to readjust German research libraries once more to a democratic regime.

LAWRENCE THOMPSON

Iowa State College Library

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, LII (1935), 496–505.

REVIEWS

Reading in general education: an exploratory study: a report of the committee on reading in general education. Edited by WILLIAM S. GRAY. American Council on Education, 1940. Pp. 464. \$2.50.

Those librarians who regard their most important function to be educational consider themselves as teachers. They are more interested in the qualitative aspects of reading and other forms of communication than in the quantitative. In *Reading in general education* they will recognize a book of the first importance. For those who have neither the training nor the time for extended study of reading problems, this volume performs a highly useful function by its timely, readable, and relatively complete presentation of the subject and its implications.

The purpose of this book is "to make an intensive, critical study of the present status, recent trends, and current issues in reading, with special reference to high schools and junior colleges, and to identify problems in need of further investigation" (p. vii). It was presented as a report of the Committee on Reading in General Education of the American Council on Education. This Committee, headed by William S. Gray, authority on reading and professor of education at the University of Chicago, secured the services of a number of well-known specialists who were asked to contribute chapters on various phases of the reading problem.

Among the contributors are Ruth Strang of the readability laboratory, Teachers College, co-author with F. C. Rose of *Problems in the improvement of reading in the high school and college* (Rev. ed.; Science press, 1940); Leon Carnovsky, Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, whose recent work with Douglas Waples (*Libraries and readers in the state of New York . . .* [University of Chicago Press, 1939]) served to emphasize the importance of accessibility as a determining factor in the public's choice of reading; and Lou La Brant, Ohio State University, who, with Frieda M. Heller, published the significant *Experimenting together: the librarian and the teacher of English* (American Library Association, 1938).

Reading is here defined as the interpretation of written and printed symbols; general education, as education at the senior high school level through the junior college or the first two years of college education. Reading is further treated, not as a tool to be acquired in the elementary school and thereafter disregarded, but one that must be sharpened and continually used throughout general education. It is one of many tools, abilities, and experiences to be used together for the successful adjustment of the individual to the everyday problems of contemporary life.

This comprehensive concept of reading in relation to the total needs of students is well expressed in the headings of the eleven chapters comprising the book: "Social change, general education, and reading"; "Reading and factors influencing reading efficiency"; "Relation of reading to other forms of learning"; "Approach to reading through analysis of meanings"; "Reading problems in content fields"; "American culture and the teaching of literature"; "Reading interests and tastes"; "Difficulties in reading material"; "Diagnosis and remediation"; "Techniques of appraisal"; "The library."

Today, among high-school and college students, serious reading deficiencies exist which present problems that require various treatments. Broadly, these problems may be classified as (1) developmental and (2) remedial. The developmental problems deal with increasing the efficiency of the reader by aiding him in the selection and critical appraisal of reading materials and in the application of acquired knowledge. In this phase of reading experience the librarian and other teachers have a fruitful field of work. Remedial work usually requires the services of a specially trained person and is increasingly being carried on, not in the classroom, but in reading clinics and other psychological laboratories.

Experts now have at their disposal a variety of instruments of appraisal ranging from complicated mechanical devices requiring a high degree of skill in their use to rating scales, observational techniques, and interviews. However, most are agreed that a sound basis of experimentation and research should be laid down before appraisal programs can become highly valid and reliable.

This reviewer believes that librarians can join forces with other educators in attempting to solve the problems of reading. Such collaboration should include not only the guidance of readers in the developmental group but remedial treatment as well. In schools and colleges where reading clinics exist the library should offer the closest co-operation possible; where no clinics exist the library may well consider the addition of a reading specialist to its own staff.

MORRIS A. GELFAND

*Queens College
Flushing, New York*

Guide to the material in the National Archives. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1940. Pp. xviii+303. \$0.40 (paper cover); \$0.70 (cloth binding).

This *Guide* appears not quite five years after the National Archives received its first material and covers the accessions of four calendar years (December 27, 1935—December 31, 1939). During that time the records received have amounted to 320,000 linear feet and have arrived in 482 lots or accessions.

Only those who have dealt with large bodies of material can appreciate

the task confronting the National Archives staff in dealing with such quantities of records. That a guide of any sort could be prepared in as short a time as five years testifies to the industry and efficiency of those in charge.

Preceding the body of the *Guide* is a ten-page introduction which demands the careful reading of all librarians and of every scholar intending to use the National Archives. While this Introduction explains much as to methods of procedure, arrangement of records, organization of the *Guide*, and information of use to the researcher in determining whether the National Archives has material of value for him, yet its most interesting feature is the evidences of archival principles which have guided the staff in their work. Librarians will find the technical language somewhat different from their own but equally intelligible.

The arrangement of entries in the *Guide* begins with the Congress, followed by the ten executive departments arranged according to rank, and succeeded by thirty-seven independent agencies. These latter are "arranged chronologically in the order of their establishment." Sections on the judiciary and on motion-picture accessions complete the main portion of the *Guide*. There follows an appendix, which contains briefer descriptions of records only partially analyzed as yet. In so far as possible the principle of provenance has been followed by entering "descriptions of records under the names of the agencies that last performed the functions reflected by the records." In the Appendix some records were necessarily entered under the name of the agency from which they were received, pending further investigation of their history.

One of the most valuable features of the *Guide* is the summary histories of each government department and agency. Descriptions of the records which follow give in each case inclusive dates (sometimes approximate), a statement of quantity in linear feet, an indication of any important gaps in the records, and a notation of finding mediums. These include lists, registers, abstracts, indexes, and classification plans. In most cases these came with the records, having been compiled by the department or agency for its own use and put in order and expanded wherever it seemed advisable, but in some instances they have been prepared at the National Archives. In addition the Archives staff prepares for its own use and information several kinds of descriptive, historical, and identification reports which are of further aid in locating specific records. Following each entry in the *Guide* is a brief bibliography citing works which give additional information on the organization of the agency or its records. The Index to the *Guide* is quite comprehensive (24 pp.), covering many subjects and all names of persons mentioned in the text. Obviously, though, this includes only a tiny fraction of the persons represented in the records themselves.

An examination of the entire volume leaves one with certain general impressions. Of all the agencies, the state department is undoubtedly the most complex, probably the most extensive (7,328 feet and 3,876 volumes of records), and certainly the most important. Among the independent agencies,

the bulk of World War records is most striking. In other instances the absence or small quantity of older records is the most outstanding fact. Since transfer of records to the National Archives is far from complete, it is not yet proper to pass a final judgment on this point, but in some instances the *Guide* notes that the whereabouts of specific bodies of records is thus far unknown.

This *Guide* entirely supersedes the first one covering records received to June 30, 1937, which was published in the *Third annual report of the archivist of the United States* (Washington, 1938 [pp. 111-68]). A comparison of these two guides shows much more than the mere increase of materials. While many of the fundamentals are apparent in the earlier compilation, the latter shows great advances in organization, knowledge of the records, clarity of presentation, and application of archival principles.

The persons who participated in compiling the *Guide* are no doubt more conscious of its shortcomings than will be the majority of its users. Incomplete analyses of some bodies of records have necessitated tentative and not wholly satisfactory descriptions. Each individual investigator will doubtless wish for a fuller description of the entries covering his particular interest. On the whole, however, the *Guide* is a compilation of inestimable value to scholars, officials, and librarians, unlocking for them a vast and growing new treasure house of the past.

RUTH K. NUERMBERGER

Duke University Library
Durham, North Carolina

Biennial report of the State Department of Archives and History, including a bibliography of West Virginia, Parts I and II. Compiled by INNIS C. DAVIS, with the assistance of EMILY JOHNSTON and other members of the Staff of the Department of Archives and History. Pp. [xv]+143+392.

The authors of this bibliography are happily a unique combination of archivist, historian, and librarian. Their concerted efforts have made possible an extremely valuable and scholarly work which will prove an inestimable aid to all those interested in the history of West Virginia and adjoining states. Well organized throughout and tersely done, the bibliography contains 535 pages (Part I, 143 pp.; Part II, 392 pp.), including indexes, and lists upwards of 25,000 entries. Part I is a "subject arrangement of books which relate to West Virginia and West Virginians; the titles of books written by West Virginians and those printed in West Virginia"; Part II is devoted to the printed official state documents.

In their Introduction the authors state: "Comparatively few of the citizens of West Virginia realize the wealth of material relating to West Virginia and for general reference that is available here. This library is considered the best in existence relating to the State, and in the past two years many

valuable and interesting books have been added." If the collection has been little used, as is inferred in the above quotation, there is less reason to believe, now that this bibliography has been distributed, that this condition will continue to exist.

Part I is well classified under such descriptive headings as "Early history, exploration, journals," "The negro and slavery," "Religion," "West Virginia cities," and "Scenic and descriptive." Each entry not found in the State Department of Archives and History is marked with an asterisk. Not the least useful section and one which will doubtless be welcomed by researchers is that containing a check list and directory of all newspapers published in the state between 1790 and 1905. Although the work closes with a table of contents, an index, and an excellent topical index, this reviewer noted especially the lack of cross-references in Part I.

WILLIAM STANLEY HOOLE

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Denton, Texas

Bibliographical description and cataloguing. By J. D. COWLEY. London: Grafton & Co., 1939. Pp. xii+256. 12s. 6d.

This book fills a need in the field described exactly by its title. American librarians have generally less knowledge of the methods of bibliographical description than the British students for whom this book was written. Therefore, Dr. Cowley's work, though using examples more commonly met with in England than here, is of the greatest value for all American librarians who retain an interest in books. Ignorance of the logic and method of exact bibliographical description typically results, on the librarian's part, in impatience with collectors' bibliographies and bibliophile psychology in general. This book will help to set such librarians straight. It has value for all in its wise emphasis on the relationship of bibliographical description to library cataloging and in its attention to arrangement and editing for publication of both bibliographies and catalogs.

There exist excellent guides to library cataloging and to the bibliographical description of special kinds of older works, such as manuscripts and incunabula. This book takes up the slack in those "aspects of printing and publishing methods of all periods about which the general textbooks are silent." It is not a fair criticism from an American reader to the English author that the chief examples used are early English printed books (as in McKerrow). One may point out, however, that important works of and on bibliography and book production by Americans have been omitted: none of George Parker Winship's work is mentioned, and Lawrence C. Wroth's basic contribution to the meaning of "format" in *The Dolphin* I has not been used, although the annual itself is cited. Yet it will be felt that the author has been wise to write from his own experience and that the principles elucidated from one field of book

history are quickly adaptable to others of greater interest to the individual reader.

Two concluding chapters deserve special attention and even more enthusiasm than the first two hundred pages of this useful and charming volume. Chapter xiii is a remarkable synoptic list of dicta on description in general, transcription of titles, imprints and colophons, format and signatures, and annotation. The reviewer takes exception to item 5 on page 207, which commends measurement in centimeters for modern works, as he has yet to meet a cataloger or collector—English or American—who visualizes size other than by inches or by 8vo and the other symbols of folding. Chapter xiv is "A list of reference works," well-selected and well-arranged. Under the last caption, "Watermarks," the author calls attention to a weakness in his own text. He refers only sketchily to watermarks, despite the fact that they "sometimes prove to be of vital significance in deciding the date or provenance of a book or document."

Bibliographical description and cataloguing should be in the working library of every American collector, cataloger, bibliographer, and librarian who works with books. It is a sensible and imaginative book that every careful user will wish he had been able to write.

SIDNEY KRAMER

Matthews Library
Arizona State Teachers College

Notes used on catalog cards: a list of examples. Compiled by OLIVE SWAIN. Chicago: American Library Association, 1940. Pp. ix+102. \$1.25 (plano-graphed).

With the publication of this volume, a dormant issue in cataloging has been pushed into prominence. The volume contains some fifteen hundred notes which have been used on catalog cards, and it is unlikely that any cataloger can read through the pages without wondering whether such a published list really should exist. Can and should notes on catalog cards be standardized? If so, how should it be done?

The list itself makes no issue of standardization, does not pretend to be dogmatic and authoritative. It was made to be a helpful reference tool. The compiler states in her Preface that "the aim has been to enable a cataloger to look under a given heading and find there either a note which expresses clearly and briefly what he wants to say about the book at hand, or one which will suggest the wording to suit the particular need." However, the use to which this published list is put in the next few years necessarily has to indicate the feeling of catalogers throughout the country toward interlibrary forms of notes. If catalogers learn of this list, and make no use of it, then they accede to the viewpoint that notes are an individual matter peculiar to the library in which they work or even to themselves. If they use the list,

either as a whole or as a source from which certain approved notes can be extracted and recompiled into a list for their own libraries, then they give evidence that some degree of standardization is possible and that opportunities for future co-operative editing should be investigated.

In the stage in which it has been published, the list is a collection of approximately 1,550 notes, classified under 69 headings. The headings are arranged alphabetically, and the notes are listed alphabetically under each heading. In general, the notes are merely listed, with no explanation and no definition of terms. In this form the list accomplishes little else than spadework in unearthing examples and presentation of these examples in a physical form which can be easily circulated, fairly easily studied, and very easily criticized.

The quantity of notes results from avidity in collecting and from the editorial policies of enumerating variations of the same note, of giving quoted notes applicable only to specific books and not necessarily to be expected in a general list, and of including rather extensive files for manuscripts, maps, and music. The mass which has been thus piled up is both a help and a hindrance. It is a help if this edition is to be considered tentative and suggestions are desired for a later edition, since it is a much quicker process to obtain a consensus of opinion on what to omit than on what to add. It is a hindrance to rapid consultation because of the many notes which have to be scanned in order to find the proper one.

Several things have been done to make the list easy to consult. Diverse avenues of approach have been provided by grouping the notes under headings of varying natures, ranging from those covering general types of material, such as dissertations and rare books, to those covering specific phases of physical description, such as illustration and paging. There are *see* and *see also* references, although these are as yet incompletely worked out. Furthermore, notes were classed under more than one heading. An unchecked tabulation of the reviewer shows that almost a third were treated in this way: 371 under 2 headings, 60 under 3, 8 under 4, and 1 under 5. This duplication of entries under different headings, however, seems to have been carried out in a rather mechanical way in some instances; e.g., would anyone look under "Preface" for the note "Short bibliography in preface"? The most serious lack of effort in making the list manageable is the omission of a table of contents to show at a glance the headings which were adopted.

The quality of the notes varies, partly because of different sources and partly because of uneven editing. The nucleus of the list was a collection made for the University of Washington Library, where Miss Swain is senior librarian in the catalog division. Many notes were taken from Library of Congress cards and, after sponsorship for publication by the A.L.A. Committee on Cataloging and Classification, other sources were used for additional notes. These sources are given in the Preface. It was considered impossible to evolve and apply a system for indicating the source of individual notes.

Because of this fact and because of the general absence of explanation and definition of terms, when a cataloger finds a note applicable to his problem, he still must depend on his own experience to judge whether the wording is in good form.

The Preface is well written and inspires confidence. However, when one stumbles on the general notes "First published in 1876" and "Printed in Germany" under the heading "Music (scores)," and when one observes that there is a heading "Miscellaneous" as well as a rather inclusive and vague heading "Explanatory matter," one wonders how thoroughly the editing was done.

A list such as this is not properly the sphere of action for one person to compile or for one person to evaluate. An expression of opinion from a representative number of catalogers is required in order to define its use, scope, and the method of presentation of material. A co-operative checking by many libraries is necessary to give the individual notes authoritativeness.

JENNETTE E. HITCHCOCK

Yale University Library
New Haven, Connecticut

Banking and financial subject headings for bank libraries and financial information files. Compiled by A COMMITTEE OF THE FINANCIAL GROUP, SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION, 1940. Pp. vi+98. \$4.00.

A cataloger examining any list of subject headings is quite sure to ask first wherein it agrees and disagrees with other lists, primarily that of the Library of Congress. This is never a fair criterion for judging either list, for in the general library the subject approach is often through large subjects and in the special library usually through the very small, very specific ones. This difference is reflected in *Banking and financial subject headings*. About 45 per cent of these headings are not found in the Library of Congress list. Most of these are very specific terms, though in some cases the new list has used a later terminology not yet adopted by the Library of Congress. In its Introduction, *Banking and financial subject headings* explains its method and "coverage." That it is a practical list is assured by the statement that it is "based largely on the headings actually in use in the libraries of three large financial institutions." It includes "besides the obvious subjects of Banking and Finance . . . Business, Industry, Foreign trade, Foreign exchange and other related economic subjects." Although "the most specific heading possible has been chosen . . . in a few cases a class system has been set up where it seemed desirable to keep material together. For example . . . the heading 'Loans—Brokers' " instead of "Brokers' loans." There are probably not more than two dozen of these inverted headings, and exceptions are to be found under some of these groups. Under "Loans," e.g., we find "Loans—Call, *see* Call loans"; "Loans—Lombard, *see* Lombard loans." It will be noted that a dash is used instead of the comma. This makes it possible to file all subdivisions in one alphabet more easily.

Five lists of subheads are given at the end of the Introduction: "City subheads"; "Country and state subheads"; "Form subheads"; "Industry subheads"; and "Commodity subheads." Some of the subheads suggested for use under city, country, or state occur in the Library of Congress list as main headings with local subdivision, such as "Finance," "Geology," "Water supply." Finance under country or state as used in the special list is further subdivided by "Budget" (a main heading in the Library of Congress list); "Credits"; "Public debt—External"; "Public debt—Internal" (Library of Congress uses "Debts, Public," with local subdivision); and "Revenues and expenditures" (Library of Congress main heading "Revenue," with local subdivision).

The terminology of *Banking and financial subject headings* is satisfactorily up to date. The term "Charities" has, however, been retained. "Welfare work" has been added, probably supplanting the old term "Social service." No references are indicated from "Welfare work" to "Charities" or from "Charities" to "Welfare work." Both "Aeronautics" and "Aviation" are listed. Under the latter is a note: "[For flying and general articles] *See Also Aeronautics.*" This leads one to conclude that "Aeronautics" is probably reserved for the engineering phase, though the suggested references from the latter include "Air transport." Other references are to "Aircraft"; "Airplanes"; "Airships"; and "Aviation." The use of "Aviation industry" (Library of Congress "Aeroplane industry and trade") arouses some doubts as to the exact distinction intended between "Aeronautics" and "Aviation." The only references suggested to "Aviation industry" are "Airplane industry, *see—*"; and "Airlines, *see also—*."

Throughout, the term "and trade," so often a part of the Library of Congress heading for an industry, is omitted. The word "trade," in this connection, is used very rarely and then only when in common use, e.g., "Grain trade"; "Milk trade"; "Retail trade"; and "Wholesale trade." Similarly "business" is used in "Grocery business"; "Mail order business"; and "Real estate business." In practically all other cases "industry" is the term used, e.g., "Baking industry"; "Clothing industry"; "Durable goods industry"; "Fishery industry"; "Liquor industry"; "Shoe industry"; and "Silk industry."

With the large subject "Banks and banking," an effort has been made to reduce subheads to a minimum by the use of terms beginning with "Bank" or "Banking" and by placing a well-known phrase under its own name, as "Branch banking." There remain, however, some thirty-five subheads under the main subject. One of these is "Government regulation," with *see* references suggested from "Government in banking" and "Government regulation of banking." The subhead "Regulation" is also listed, with "*See also Bank examination*" added. To the uninitiated this seems a duplication of headings.

"Collective bargaining" finds a place in *Banking and financial subject headings*. *See also* references are given to "Employees' representation" and "Labor agreements," but there are none to "Labor unions," or from "Labor unions"

to "Collective bargaining." There is no reference from "Labor unions" to "Labor agreements." These subjects seem so closely tied together that references would be almost indispensable in the general library. There are other similar cases of omission of references which would be needed by general libraries, as from "Guide books" to the subdivision under countries and states and from "Industry" to special industries.

Some very welcome new headings are "Budget—Household," instead of the awkward "Domestic economy—Accounting"; "By-products" as well as "Waste products"; "Workmen's compensation" as well as "Employers' liability"; "Social security" used "for U.S. only. Otherwise Insurance, Social." The latter is also a new heading.

Commerce is to be used "for all trade except the specific subjects of Foreign trade and Interstate commerce." "Foreign trade" is used, not only as a main heading, but "also as a subhead under commodity and country, e.g., Cotton—Foreign trade; Great Britain—Foreign trade." The occasional explanations of terms are very helpful.

No attempt has been made to check typographical errors, but few stand out, and one or two of them are rather serious. Under "Convertible" we find "See Bonds—Convertible." Perhaps "Convertible" is a common abbreviation among bankers for "Convertible bonds." "Freight—Rates (Railroad) See Railroad—Rates (Freight)" should read "See Railroads—Rates (Freight)." Under "Loans" there is a *see also* reference to "Small loans." "Loans—Small" is listed as a main heading, with a *see* reference indicated from "Small loans." Under "Small loans" we read "See Loans—Small," but there is also given a *see also* reference from "Loans." A rather peculiar entry is that for "Valorization," in the main body of the list. Under this is the note: "Use only as subhead under commodity, e.g., Coffee—Valorization." In the list of commodity subheads "Valorization" does not appear.

The presence of the "refer from" suggestions is a very helpful feature of the book. In spite of its special nature, all catalogers will find this list useful, especially in deciding upon terms for material which does not fit under any of the old headings. The decisions of people constantly handling such material is invaluable.

ESTHER A. SMITH

Catalog Department
University of Michigan

500 books for children. By NORA E. BEUST (U.S. Department of Interior, Office of Education, *Bulletin* [1939], No. 11.) Washington: Government Printing Office, 1940. Pp. vi+89. \$0.15.

To make available a list of children's books designed primarily for the nonprofessional in libraries, in schools, and in the home is the ambitious purpose of this recent publication released by the United States Bureau of Edu-

cation. Miss Beust, the editor, as the specialist in children's reading at the Bureau, has supplied the answer to an urgent demand from many groups with this practical, up-to-date, simple, and inexpensive guide.

An unusually adequate preface makes clear the method of compilation and the principles of selection followed. A group of students in children's literature at the University of Chicago first examined a preliminary state library list from Minnesota for 1938 and based their selection on that list. The result was subsequently checked by representative experts in the field of children's reading, including school and children's librarians, teachers, and other specialists in elementary education. Not only were suggestions for additional titles furnished, but opinions on their grade placement and their use with respect to such additional details as reading aloud and story-telling were offered.

As the title indicates, the total number of books is approximately five hundred, divided rather evenly into three sections corresponding to the three educational levels: preschool through primary (Grades I-III); intermediate (Grades IV-VI); and the upper group (Grades VII-VIII). The attempt throughout was to consider only those titles which would give the child real satisfaction and pleasure—in other words, the recreational side of reading—and for this reason reference books and strictly supplementary readers are omitted. Obviously, in meeting normal interests of the modern child, such school topics as "transportation" and "mines and mining" appear, but as a whole the list is refreshingly free from curricular blight. This departure also accounts for the difference in distribution of classes as compared with certain standard lists; e.g., the lack of geographical or travel material, the preponderance of books for the preschool child, and the large percentage of fiction for the upper grades.

The editor's claim that the books "represent a cross section of the heritage in reading material that is available to children of today" might be challenged, since at least half of the titles have been published within the past decade, and of these 50 per cent between 1937-38. The classics and other standard works are given careful consideration for the most recent and satisfactory editions, which should do much in revivifying them for the modern child. On the other hand, the very recency in publication dates of the titles as a whole is a barometer of the desire to interpret present-day interests, activities, and events in current literature.

By far the most satisfactory asset of the list is its practicability. Two-thirds of the books cost two dollars or less, and even of these a large majority are as inexpensive as a dollar or less. Looked at from the cost angle, the entire collection could be purchased for approximately seven hundred dollars, or each section for about two hundred and fifty dollars—a price within the budget possibilities of many small communities.

Under each title is a brief annotation, often quoted directly from the book in question and, wherever possible, incorporating exact information as to

the field covered. Supplementing the note are bibliographical entries to other similar works by the same author, other editions, and even other titles in a given series—a device which greatly increases the scope of the list. Notations as to grade placement, together with certain alphabetical symbols which indicate further use in terms of story-telling or reading aloud, act as simple but effective devices for directing reading by "remote control." Other noteworthy features are the list of illustrators for the books, the directory of publishers, and, finally, the effective and complete Index by author, title, and subject.

The pages devoted to the Newbery and Caldecott medal-winners, together with brief paragraphs describing the establishment of the medals, are further proof of the usefulness of this small, paper-covered volume. This section is illustrated by two full-page insertions in black and white of the two Caldecott winners, but for the Newbery group an ingenious method has been employed whereby small cuts of typical illustrations from the books form an attractive pattern for both the front and the back covers. The somewhat cryptic symbols in the upper corners of each cut serve as index numbers to the list printed within the book itself.

Before each of the three sections of the book lists proper are excerpts from an article or book by a well-known authority in the field, headed by such captions as "Books in the home," "The child's own library," and "The reading habit." On the opposite page is a full-page illustration, not labeled in any way, but in reality a reproduction of a book-week poster. The effort to make the list attractive through illustration and captions is to a certain extent counterbalanced by the rather poor paper stock and the uninteresting typography, both of which may be due to certain rigid production specifications.

The list, with its understanding Foreword by Miss Goodykoontz, the assistant commissioner of education, should be valuable not only for the untrained worker but also for the librarian to recommend to parents and teachers who need a small and recent volume to meet their needs. It is hoped that this list will be used as a guide in the establishment of small, interesting children's libraries in schools and communities not only in so-called "neglected areas" but wherever children and books can be brought together.

HELEN MARTIN ROOD

Scarsdale, New York

Subject index to books for intermediate grades. Compiled by ELOISE RUE. Chicago: American Library Association, 1940. Pp. lix+495. \$4.00.

Variant instructional methods, the emphasis on centers of interest, and an increased production of materials at the intermediate-grade level have tended to increase the need for and the usefulness of subject indexes to books. The first in a series of such tools by Miss Rue, the *Subject index to readers*, provided a key to books for the primary grades; the second, the *Subject index to books for*

intermediate grades, constitutes a guide to both trade- and textbooks for Grades IV-VI, while the third, designed for junior high school purposes, has not yet been published.

Since the publication of the *Subject index*, the child asking for more material on "aard-varks" or on "city life in China" than is contained in the encyclopedias need no longer harass school librarians. Aside from its general usefulness as a short route to the contents of some 1,300 books, the *Index* has value as a general reference tool, as a book-selection guide, and as a cataloging aid. Over 20,000 entries, listed under some 4,000 subjects, give author, title, paging, grade level, and, when necessary, symbols indicating particular suitability for pictures, identification, handicraft, or teacher use.

Particularly significant is the methodology employed in the book's compilation, which included an examination of courses of study in order to ascertain activities and units of work and to determine subjects based on curricular needs. Although it is not made clear whether the instructional units or the books selected finally determined the subject headings, we may assume that the former, more realistic, method prevailed. Teachers, students, and librarians should find the *Index* helpful.

FRANCES HENNE

University of Chicago

The Kress Library of Business and Economics catalogue: covering material published through 1776 with data upon cognate items in other Harvard libraries. Boston: Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration, 1940. Pp. x+414.

In a field inadequately covered by bibliographies this impressive catalogue of 7,279 entries is welcome. It includes not only the items of appropriate date in the Kress Library on the historical aspects of business and economics but those also in the libraries of the business school, of the law school, and the other libraries of Harvard University.

The inclusion of these additional items entailed a careful search through the catalogs of these libraries and has raised a difficult problem of selection. "The . . . Kress collection . . . items range from political philosophy to ideal commonwealths, and trench upon such other categories as ethics, political history, proceedings of Parliament, books of travel, collections of statutes upon specific business or economic subjects and disquisitions upon feudal law" (p. vii). Needless to say, in selecting items from other Harvard collections no attempt was made to cover this broad range of subjects. Many books, therefore, covering these borderline subjects are represented only by those editions which are in the Kress Library, even though other editions are in the other libraries of the university. But even from these libraries the material selected is surprisingly wide in range, including sermons, songs, personal satire, and fiction.

The description of each item is quite full. "The entries," Mr. Arthur H.

Cole writes in the Preface, "have been prepared in fuller style than is typical of the library short-title catalogue, since our purpose is to indicate as well as may be the content of the piece. . . . Wherever feasible, imprint data has been incorporated, as well as size and pagination" (p. vi). But, as the librarian of the collection further states, these entries derive "from a number of sources and there are obvious variations in fullness and forms with which bibliographical data are presented" (p. vi, n. 2). This procedure—for practical reasons no doubt unavoidable—plus the obvious difficulties of comparing books shelved in separate libraries, has occasionally led to difficulties. *England's [sic] royall fishing revived* . . . By E. S. . . . 1630, a Harvard College Library book, for example, is entered under "[Sharpe, Edward]" (item 470). This, however, is merely another issue of *Britaines busse . . . or . . . herring-fishing ship* . . . 1615 (item 348), a Kress book, which is entered under "S., E." with nothing in the Index or elsewhere to show their relation.

The items, beginning with Johann Nider's *Tractatus de contractibus mercatorum*, 1468?, are arranged chronologically. In some instances, however, translations and later editions of items apparently of secondary interest are dismissed with a brief mention in the description of the earliest edition. But more important works have each edition listed under its year of publication—frequently with a mention of the date of the first edition in the descriptions of each later edition. This arrangement, "dictated primarily by the needs of scholars," is ideal for the investigator who is tracing a broad subject throughout a certain period. The reader who desires specific titles can locate them by means of the Index. There is, however, no subject index to enable the investigator dealing with a limited subject to locate readily the material of every period bearing upon it. A subject index of the Kress collection, we learn (p. vi), is being prepared on cards. It would be a splendid addition to this excellent catalog if, upon completion, it could be expanded to include items in the other libraries and published as a supplement. Such an index would give additional force to the librarian's observation:

Probably a printed catalogue . . . provides a creative force in that students are by it encouraged to examine the historical aspects of their particular subjects or problems—excursions which they may well avoid if they have to blaze a path for themselves in a literature which as yet has no adequate bibliographical guides [p. v].

EDWIN ELIOTT WILLOUGHBY

Folger Shakespeare Library

Bibliography of speech education. Compiled by LESTER THONSSON and ELIZABETH FATHERSON. New York: H. W. Wilson Co., 1939. Pp. 800. Sold on service basis.

According to its Preface, this book "is planned to provide ready reference to the growing volume of literature on speech education." The compilers define "speech education" in a sufficiently broad sense to permit listings on

rhetoric and public speaking, interpretation, dramatics, language and phonetics, speech pathology and correction, speech science, and speech in education.

While there is justification for speculation over the mutual exclusiveness of the subject headings, it should be apparent that the authors have chosen a gratifyingly broad field for their efforts. The range of the headings exhausts the field of speech proper and stops short of a consideration of titles dealing with semantics or linguistic analysis.

The matter of mutual exclusiveness is not solved from the bare examination of the headings. Mr. Thonssen and Miss Fatherson have subdivided each section of their work into units, which make it clear that the indexing of items in more than one section, wherever it occurs, is by design.

The annotations which accompany a large proportion of the entries are especially valuable. It is clearly stated that

the length of an annotation does not necessarily reflect the quality of the book or article under consideration. Our only object in presenting the expository detail is to throw some light upon the general nature of the work. Consequently, many of the listed materials are not annotated because the titles are sufficiently revealing to suggest the contents or point of view.

Inept or careless annotation will mar the most well-meaning bibliography, but this work is enhanced by the detached commentaries employed.

Whether or not it can be stated that "this book fills a long-felt need" I am not capable of deciding, although I know of no other adequate work with a similar scope. For the student interested in speech in any one of its numerous branches, this book will prove of tremendous value. While it is true that the literature is growing, the consciousness of this fact is lacking in the minds of both students and teachers in the field. There is hope that the service basis of this work will serve as a reminder of fresh material.

DEMAREST POLACHECK

University of Chicago

College plans for retirement income. By RAINARD B. ROBBINS. New York: Columbia University Press, 1940. Pp. ix+253. \$2.75.

Mr. Robbins has provided a treatise on plans of higher institutions for the retirement of faculty and staff members that is both authoritative and timely. The author, through his long connection with the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association, is in an especially effective position to survey this problem and to suggest sound recommendations for the guidance of executive officers and staff members in institutions of higher education. Particularly commendable is the general approach to the problem: the author looks upon retirement provisions, not as a form of charity to superannuated servants of the institution in return for their long and faithful but underpaid services, but rather as an administrative device whereby the institution may improve

its opportunity to maintain its instructional program at a high level of effectiveness.

Part I of the book consists of an analysis of the present status of college plans for retirement income. It provides a few pages of general summary describing the various types of plans now in effect and indicating the number of institutions using each plan and the number of faculty members covered by each. The remainder of Part I, approximately one hundred and ten pages out of a total of one hundred and eighty of text in the entire volume, is given over to detailed descriptions of the retirement plans of each of some three hundred and fifty institutions. There is in addition an appendix of about fifty pages in which information concerning the plans in the individual colleges and universities is presented in tabular form. The descriptions and tabulations relating to the plans in the various colleges and universities of the country will be found valuable chiefly for reference purposes.

Part II of the volume, consisting of forty-four pages, contains three sections: a brief history of the development of college pension plans; a somewhat longer section dealing with the desirable provisions that should be set up in retirement plans; and a discussion of the relation of the institutions of higher education to the retirement plan of the federal Social Security Act. The section which presents the analysis of desirable provisions that should be contained in retirement plans is especially valuable. Nowhere else in the literature is there so effective a marshaling of the evidence nor so complete a treatment of the features that should be taken into account in making arrangements for the retirement of college staff members. In the section dealing with the mooted question of the attitude of the colleges toward the retirement plan of the Social Security Act, the author gently chides certain educational leaders for their unwise opposition to the social security bill when it was under consideration, an attitude which led to the exclusion of higher institutions from the benefits of the Act. Mr. Robbins argues, in a manner to bring conviction to any doubter, that this policy was a mistake and that the colleges and universities should prepare to participate in the federal program of retirement under the Social Security Act.

This volume is one that should be available to every college executive in the country. Faculty committees that are struggling with the problems incident to the preparation of a retirement plan for their institutions will find this book especially useful. Staff members in colleges and universities where protection is now afforded by a retirement plan will be interested in checking the effectiveness of their plan against the criteria suggested by Mr. Robbins. Those in institutions which do not now have a retirement plan should be stimulated to the point of demanding an immediate attack on the problem of setting up some arrangement for retirement income.

JOHN DALE RUSSELL

*Department of Education
University of Chicago*

Six Scandinavian novelists: Lie, Jacobsen, Heidenstam, Selma Lagerlöf, Hamsun, Sigrid Undset. By ALRIK GUSTAFSON. Princeton: Princeton American-Scandinavian Foundation, Princeton University Press, 1940. Pp. 367. \$3.50.

Again the American-Scandinavian Foundation has given us a volume significant in furthering the appreciation and understanding of Scandinavian literature by the English-reading public. Translations of Scandinavian novels have been increasingly frequent in recent years, but they have received no adequate critical comment in English and little literary history. Professor Alrik Gustafson's *Six Scandinavian novelists* meets to a large degree the need for careful criticism based upon thorough study of Scandinavian literary backgrounds.

The claim of these six novelists to intensive consideration will hardly be disputed. Lie, Jacobsen, and Heidenstam will be less familiar to the general reader than the other three novelists, Hamsun, Lagerlöf, and Undset. Lie and Jacobsen belong to an earlier period of the development of Scandinavian fiction—the seventies and the eighties. Jacobsen and Heidenstam have made less extensive contribution to the novel than have the others in this group. Jacobsen, however, deserves inclusion by reason of the unusual qualities of his two best-known novels and as a representative of the late nineteenth-century decadence, while Heidenstam's stature as poet and invigorating influence in the rebirth of Swedish national spirit would entitle him to study even were not his volumes of short narratives and his one novel correspondingly distinguished. The reader familiar with the Scandinavian novel will miss other writers of high merit, but it is not Mr. Gustafson's intention to write a history of the subject and thus lose thoroughness and critical emphasis in the cause of inclusiveness and sketchy surveys.

The book is made up of six critical essays. The title of each essay indicates the chief significance given the writer therein discussed and the varying trends which have marked the development of Scandinavian fiction: "Impressionistic realism," Jonas Lie; "Toward decadence," Jens Peter Jacobsen; "Nationalism, reinterpreted," Verner von Heidenstam; "Saga and legend of a province," Selma Lagerlöf; "Man and the soil," Knut Hamsun; and "Christian ethics in a pagan world," Sigrid Undset. Preceding the essays a preliminary chapter succinctly summarizes the literary trends in nineteenth-century Scandinavia which were the backgrounds for these novelists and suggests the influences they have exerted and their relations to modern criticism.

In accordance with his critical purpose, Mr. Gustafson introduces biographical and historical facts only in so far as they make the essays intelligible to readers unacquainted in the field and enhance interpretation of the novelists, their materials, and their treatment of these materials. He has also chosen one novel by each author for intensive study. He discusses other works more briefly in relation to the author's ideas and development. The

advantage of this plan, of which Mr. Gustafson has made fullest use, is, I believe, the opportunity it gives for a study of style. Illustrations of narrative technique linked with fictional trends and with the intentions and achievements of the writers are numerous. Less full are discussions of general architecture and form. On the other hand, well-reasoned, informed judgments on influences and ideas and on the general substance of the novels and their achievements in character are real merits of the volume. The perspective of the study of Hamsun is welcome at a time when political attitudes may blind readers to the significance of Hamsun's work as a whole. Undset's books are also placed in a helpful perspective—her historical novels, her highest achievements, seen in relation to the development of that literary type; her modern novels acutely judged in relation to the religious developments basic in her historical novels. Though, as Mr. Gustafson recognizes, we have not yet arrived at the time of definitive judgments of these writers, he has pointed the way to what some of those judgments may ultimately be.

Without losing a critical point of view (if anything, the philosophic and aesthetic interests of the book may offer some difficulties even to the "general cultured English-speaking reading public" for whom it is intended), Mr. Gustafson constantly points out literary excellencies and remarkable literary achievements. These achievements are less evident in translations, even recent good ones, than in the originals, but the reader who turns to the novels will find that the critic's enthusiasms are justified and that his own ability to comprehend these achievements has been given a firm basis in these excellent essays.

One limitation—the absence of all bibliography—may be explained by the book's being intended for a relatively general public. But this public, as well as the scholarly reader, would, I believe, be glad to find within the covers of the book at least a list of recommended translations.

HENRIETTE C. K. NAESETH

*Augustana College
Rock Island, Illinois*

BOOK NOTES

Russian composers and musicians: a biographical dictionary. Compiled by ALEXANDRIA VODARSKY-SHIRAEFF. New York: H. W. Wilson Co., 1940. Pp. 158. \$1.75.

This dictionary contains brief biographies of "not only composers but also performers, teachers and writers who have contributed to Russia's rich musical store, past and present." The names included are reasonably exhaustive of the field. Pronunciations are given, together with cross-references between the various spellings. No attempt is made to give under each name a complete list of all compositions, but for the more famous composers the place where such a list may be found is indicated. Individual bibliographies have been compiled for all the important musicians, and a complete bibliography of sources used for the dictionary is included.

As is common in a work such as this, there are numerous lapses in both information and discrimination. No birth date is given for Pyatigorski the cellist. No bibliography is included for either Nikolai Rubinstein or Dimitri Shostakovich. It seems unfair to grant Shostakovich only two lines of biography when Plotnikov, present conductor of the New York Civic Orchestra, is given nine. Although the dictionary claims no critical implications in the length of the biography, the inadequate information given about several modern composers diminishes the future usefulness of the dictionary.

The printed writings of Jonathan Edwards, 1703-1758: a bibliography. By THOMAS H. JOHNSON. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1940. Pp. vii+135. \$7.50.

The twentieth-century revival of interest in this early American philosopher is adequate cause for the publication of this bibliography. Mr. Johnson has written a short biography and history of the works of Jonathan Edwards, which is a concise and interesting introduction to the main body of the work.

An exhaustive list of the writings of the Calvinist theologian has been compiled. For each work listed, the libraries where the work may be found, in any particular edition, are indicated.

A list of incunabula in Ann Arbor, June, 1940. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 1940. Pp. 32.

The University of Michigan Library celebrated the five hundredth anniversary of the invention of typography by exhibiting fifty-one incunabula. Instead of making a mere catalog of these fifty-one volumes, Miss Ella M. Hymans has prepared this alphabetical short-title list of three hundred and ten fifteenth-century books in the various libraries of the University of Michigan and of twelve in private libraries in Ann Arbor. The exhibited books, however, are starred.

The items listed are quite typical of an American university collection. Law, medicine, the Latin classics, and the works of the Italian humanists are well represented.

Stops: a handbook for those who know their punctuation and for those who aren't quite sure. Middlebury, Vt.: Middlebury College Press, 1940. Pp. viii+37. \$1.00.

This is a gay little book in format and content. Its intention is to make punctuation a pleasure. It succeeds admirably.

Familiar or clever quotations are used to exemplify the grammatical rules printed in small italics at the bottom of each page; and engaged in putting commas, semicolons, colons, etc., in the right places in the quotations are nimble young men clad in cap and gown.

Although *Steps* may have been meant solely for the "idle illiterate," an index would have increased its value as a practical handbook.

The book was conceived and executed by the Bread Loaf School of English, and the first editions were done on the Bread Loaf Press.

BOOKS RECEIVED

The following publications have been received at the office of the Library quarterly:

- Annals of English drama, 975-1700: an analytical record of all plays, extant or lost, chronologically arranged and indexed by authors, titles, dramatic companies, etc.* By ALFRED HARBAGE. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1940. Pp. v+264. \$3.00.
- A bibliographic classification: extended by systematic auxiliary schedules for composite specification and notation.* By HENRY EVELYN BLISS. 4 vols. Vol. 1. *Introduction anterior tables and systematic schedules and classes A-G.* New York: H. S. Wilson Co., 1940. Pp. viii+615. \$10.
- A bibliographical manual for students of the language and literature of England and the United States: a short-title list.* Compiled by JOHN WEBSTER SPARGO. Chicago: Packard & Co., 1939. Pp. xii+191.
- Books for tired eyes: a list of books in large print.* Compiled by CHARLOTTE MATSON and DOROTHY WURZBURG. 3d ed. Chicago: American Library Association, 1940. Pp. 80. \$0.65.
- The centralized school library.* By HELEN E. RIMKUS. New York: H. W. Wilson Co., 1940. Pp. 110. \$1.25.
- John Cotton Dana: a life.* By FRANK KINGDON. Newark: Public Library and Museum, 1940. Pp. 175.
- Doctoral dissertations accepted by American universities, 1939-1940, No. 7.* Edited by EDWARD A. HENRY. New York: H. W. Wilson Co., 1940. Pp. xv+126. \$2.00.
- Education for social understanding: programs of case work and group work agencies.* By GAYNELL HAWKINS. ("Studies in the social significance of adult education in the United States.") New York: American Association for Adult Education, 1940. Pp. x+207. \$1.25.
- Electrical engineering.* ("Readers' guide," No. 36.) 2d ed. London: Library Association, County Libraries Section, 1940. Pp. 28.
- English for American youth.* By SARAH AUGUSTA TAINTOR and KATE M. MONRO. ("American youth series," edited by THOMAS H. BRIGGS.) New York: Macmillan Co., 1940. Pp. xviii+550. \$1.68.
- English Institute annual, 1939.* New York: Columbia University Press, 1940. Pp. xvi+164. \$2.00.
- Experiences in reading and thinking.* By STELLA S. CENTER and GLADYS L. PERSONS. ("Reading and thinking series.") New York: Macmillan Co., 1940. Pp. xi+395. \$1.20.
- The form and use of footnotes and bibliography in the publications of historical*

- records survey projects. ("W.P.A. technical series, Research and Records Projects circular," No. 4.) Pp. ii+18.
- A handbook of American Catholic Societies.* By EUGENE P. WILLGING and DOROTHY E. LYNN. Scranton, Pa.: Catholic Library Association, 1940. Pp. 26. \$0.35.
- Handbook of the learned and scientific societies and institutions of Latin America.* Compiled by HENRY O. SEVERANCE. Washington: Privately published, 1940. Pp. 123. (Mimeographed.)
- Headlines and deadlines: a manual for copyeditors.* By ROBERT E. GARST and THEODORE MENLINE BERNSTEIN. 2d ed. New York: Columbia University Press, 1940. Pp. xi+217. \$2.75.
- History of pharmacy: a guide and a survey.* By EDWARD KREMERS and GEORGE URDANG. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co., 1940. Pp. ix+466. \$4.50.
- Incunabula in the Hanes Collection of the Library of the University of North Carolina.* Compiled by OLAN V. COOK. Chapel Hill, N.C.: Library of the University of North Carolina, 1940. Pp. xviii+125. \$3.00.
- Kurze Verwaltungslehre für die Städtische Volksbücherei.* By ELIZABETH PROPACH. "Veröffentlichungen der Berliner Bibliotheksschule." Leipzig: Einkaufshaus für Büchereien, 1939. Pp. 116.
- The layman scientist in Philadelphia: a directory of amateur scientists' organizations and resources in science, 1940.* Edited by W. STEPHEN THOMAS. Philadelphia: Committee on Education and Participation in Science, American Philosophical Society, 1940. Pp. 45. \$0.15.
- A list of subject headings for books by and about the negro.* By FRANCES L. YOCOM. New York: H. W. Wilson Co., 1940. Pp. 35. \$1.00.
- Masterpieces of art: portfolio reproductions of Dutch school of painting.* New York: Art Aid, Inc., 1940. Pp. 19. \$0.50.
- Cotton Mather: a bibliography of his works.* By THOMAS JAMES HOLMES. 3 vols. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1940. Pp. xxxvi+1395. \$15.
- New poets from old: a study in literary genetics.* By HENRY W. WELLS. New York: Columbia University Press, 1940. Pp. x+356. \$3.50.
- One-act plays.* By MARIE ANNETTE WEBB. New York: Macmillan Co., 1940. Pp. x+443. \$1.60.
- Organization and personnel procedure of the _____ library: a suggested plan.* Prepared by SUBCOMMITTEE ON SCHEMES OF SERVICE of the A.L.A. Board on Salaries, Staff and Tenure. Chicago: American Library Association, 1940. Pp. v+36. (Mimeographed.)
- The poetry of Dorothy Wordsworth.* Edited from the *Journals* by HYMAN EIGERMAN. New York: Columbia University Press, 1940. Pp. xviii+84. \$2.00.
- Practices in reading and thinking.* By STELLA S. CENTER and GLADYS L. PERSONS. ("Reading and thinking series.") New York: Macmillan Co., 1940. Pp. xiii+473. \$1.40.

- Problems in reading and thinking.* By STELLA S. CENTER and GLADYS L. PERSONS. ("Reading and thinking series.") New York: Macmillan Co., 1940. Pp. xiii+657. \$1.80.
- Proceedings: conference on guidance through the school library.* Edited by NINA CAROLINE BROTHERTON. Boston: School of Library Science, Simmons College, 1940. Pp. 71. \$0.75 to members of the New England School Library Association; \$1.00 to nonmembers.
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